

Pyongyang, Korea ?

possibly early 1896  
[undated]

Samuel A. Moffett

Dear Brother Appenzeller:

At the last [I] had a most satisfactory talk with Dr. Scranton and the way is clearing up beautifully to enable us to have the Gospels and Acts out in a few months with the whole New Testament within a year. Of course, this will be only as a Tentative Edition.

[I] will see you before long and speak more in detail. May I suggest that you do not tackle the Doctor [Scranton] on the subject again but wait until I can talk it over with you.

Agitate!                      Agitate!                      Agitate!  
someone has said, and it is a pretty good thing to do if you want anything done.

We have agitated - now let's follow up with action in the Committee.

Sincerely,

S.A. Moffett

(from the Methodist archives at Drew University, Madison, NJ, microfilm cabinet A646h, reel #3, H.G. Appenzeller papers)

Seoul, Korea

January 8, 1896

Samuel F. Moore

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

You ask me to tell you something of the state of Korean politics. Although you will have been informed by the press of the principal events as they occur, yet I may be able to throw a little light upon some points. It is generally believed here that the Tâ Won Kūn was a cat's paw in the matter of the Queen's removal. It seemed necessary to the progressive party to get the Queen out of the way, as she and her family had long ruled the country, and there was little to be hoped for under their administration in the way of reform. After the Queen's death the King was virtually a prisoner in his own palace, and for many days feared that he also might soon be slain. At his request one or two of the American missionaries slept every night in a room near his own. The King felt that their presence would be a protection. One night an attack upon the palace was planned by a party of Koreans favorable to the King - They professed a desire to kill the members of the cabinet and restore the King to actual power. Up to this time the American legation had not recognized the present government but had daily visited the King and sought to comfort him by assurances of friendship and support. The leaders of the party which planned the attack on the palace the night before Thanksgiving wrote a letter, it is said, to the Japanese Minister telling him of their intentions. It was known to a number of the foreigners that the attack was to be made that night. The King sent for Dr. Avison, being somewhat indisposed. The U.S. Minister, fearing for the life of the King, gave his card and servant to Dr. Underwood and asked him to go and do what he could to protect the King. Later Mr. Hulbert, hearing that something was in the air, went in himself to the palace, as all the palace gates were locked but the U.S. Minister's card carried by his servant secured an entrance. About midnight there was a noise of guns when the three missionaries ran to the King's apartments and found him calling for the foreigners. As you know, the attack was unsuccessful and the party did not gain entrance to the palace. But the King and Crown Prince were very much frightened and Dr. Avison held the King in his arms, 'tis said, for a long time as he would not let them go away. Of course, the cabinet put these things together and were convinced that the missionaries were trying to get their party into power.

Miss Strong's teacher, Yi Chusa, was one of the leaders in the attack on the palace. He was a friend of the foreigners who waited inside hoping for the success of his attack from without. This was sufficient ground for a strong anti-American feeling to develop in the minds of the Cabinet. Up to that time the missionaries had been in favor with all parties. But in a few days there was a very marked falling off in attendance at missionary hospitals, and this still continues. Some of the doctors are almost entirely without patients. The attendance at our hospital has now increased somewhat but is much below what it was formerly. I have noticed no difference at all in the attendance at our church services, which has increased perceptibly. The newspaper printed here by the Japanese made rather more of the matter than we thought necessary. The U.S. Minister, upon reflecting that the present Korean Cabinet had not been repudiated by the King and had not violated international law, has felt compelled to recognize them as they were the de facto government.

The King had long ago been asked to cut off his topknot, but no - that was too much to ask. If we Americans were asked or commanded by law to let our hair grow long and do it up in a knot on top of the head with all the trouble and appliances used by Koreans, we would be just as reluctant to consent to the change as was the King. Members of the cabinet who had been abroad however felt that it was a necessary step in the forward march and the King was compelled to cut his hair, as the

people would then be more reconciled to this radical step. It is said that he postponed the evil day as long as possible sending letters to the Russian Minister promising anything and everything if only he would intervene and save the topknot. It is said that he wrote agreeing to declare the members of the cabinet rebels and to turn Korea over to Russia. But the Russian minister had no soldiers to enable him to take advantage of the situation even if he had wished to do so and the Royal topknot had to fall. Since the King's barbering all the members of the Cabinet and many others have cut their hair. Even coolies are not allowed to enter the palace gates wearing the sāngtū or topknot. The policemen, it is said, have cut many on the streets with their swords, and the merchants and farmers who bring in wood and rice from the country, fearing the loss of their topknot, for several days would not come in and the price of rice and wood went up. Bills were then put up allowing the people to cut their hair inside of three months. The present Cabinet seem to have a firm hold of things. The leaders in that night attack have been severely punished. Some have been executed, others beaten and others banished. Miss Strong's teacher was so badly beaten that it was feared he would die. He is to be imprisoned for a number of years.

The cutting of the hair will be a great help, I think, in introducing new customs. The people feel that the old regime is indeed giving place to the new. There are 72 trades, some of them of small importance, said to be annihilated or crippled by the reforms in dress - for with the disappearance of the topknot, away goes the Korean hat, and as foreign hats do not match the Korean garb the foreign dress is also to come in. The Cabinet have already made the change but the poor people will be some time about it. There were about 15 trades connected with head dress. The hat and appurtenances indicated formerly the rank of the wearer. Not always accurately, but anyone who had passed the kwāguh [government examination] could be known by his hat. Making and selling mängen was formerly the work of many people. The mängen is a band worn by everyone from King to coolie to keep the hair from falling down. In colporteur Chun's neighborhood the people worked at this in the winter time. A Mr. Han, member of our church who formerly kept a mängen shop is now thrown entirely out of work. Mrs. [Eugene]Bell [Charlotte Witherspoon] has taught him to make caps which he expects to make and sell. There will doubtless be much suffering.

There seems to be quite a work opening at Pai Chun. In my report to the Annual Meeting I spoke of my visit there and of receiving 20 catechumens. We kept hearing that the band of inquirers was growing and finally my teacher concluded to go down and see what was actually going on. The Koreans have such a faculty for exaggeration and for lying that reports are always taken with a large degree of allowance. Two of the native brethren accompanied Han on this trip. The first Sunday he told the people that this was not like the Roman Church where the priest would protect people from the officials and that there was no foreign influence or money to be made in becoming a Christian. On hearing this a number fell out and came no more. The three brethren spent more than 2 weeks there going from village to village instructing the people. The people had bought a house to be used as a church. It had formerly been occupied by a mūdang [sorceress] and the objects used in demon worship were still in the house (these objects are not taken away when a Korean moves but are a part of the house, as it were). These my teacher threw away and afterwards they went from house to house burning many of these objects and teaching the people of the true God. The house used as a church has two rooms. In one, the women met and one of the brethren taught them. The men were quite unable to get into the one room and so they sat on mats in the yard. My teacher says there are about 100 men. Some of these are good scholars and some cannot read at all. They are almost all farmers.

1/08/1896 - p.3 S.F.M.

The report, he says, has gone out all round that that whole section of country has entered the Jesus Church. Some came 17 miles to church on Sunday and for many miles believers are found in every village. They want a teacher, as they know nothing, and I expect to go about the first of March. The congregation is to divide into two and another church to be established at Yun an. A Mr. Im who cannot read, spent two Sundays here. He has gone from village to village telling the people to repent and worship God. He himself was formerly given to drink and gambling, etc. but is now reformed. In some villages there is said to be a great change. Gambling and drunkenness have disappeared.

The present prime minister, Youk Il-Choon, is a friend of my teacher and he has promised him a governorship. The Pai Chun governor did badly and is under arrest. My teacher is to enter upon his official duties soon and it is not unlikely that he will go to Pai Chun. A Mr. Yi who went as a Korean musician to the Chicago World's Fair called for me New Years Eve and we went together to his house and burned the objects used in demon worship before which they had sacrificed and prayed for many many years. There was a tree back of the house supposed to be inhabited by a kwisin [an evil spirit] and this we chopped down. Under this tree also they sacrificed and prayed. Then we went into the house and read from Luke 15 of the joy in heaven over repenting sinners and prayed dedicating the place to God. Mr. Yi has two brothers and the three (or I should say four - for the elder brother has two wives who seem to be much interested in the Gospel) come regularly to church and asked me to let Kup-pogie, the orphan boy we adopted two years ago, go to their homes evenings and teach them the Gospel. He slept there at nights and says they listen far into the night, and have learned to pray and sing a little. A woman whose husband left her for a concubine has been coming 30 li to church for some time. As her husband has "a little of a repenting mind" and also some of the neighbors, she has taken the orphan boy, Kup-pogie, for a preacher and gone to her husband's house, as his birthday occurs this week. This woman is a relative of Mr. Chun, the colporteur, and she spent a week or two at his house studying the New Testament. The orphan, Kup-pogie, has a good memory and can teach what he knows pretty well.

Yesterday the session of Kong-Dong-Kol church received four persons to baptism. They will be baptized next Sunday. One is a butcher, one a farmer and one a soldier. The other is a young woman. The butcher is 69, the soldier 19 and the farmer, 38, representing youth mid-life and old age. Almost the whole male membership here is made up of young men twenty to forty years old. Dr. Philip Jaisohn of Washington D.C. is here and he gave our congregation a good talk on a recent Sunday. He has not forgotten his native tongue although he has been away for 11 years. There are said to be 200 or 300 men in Song Do - - next city in size to Seoul, who wish to become Christians. An inquirer, Chay Chusa, has taken a lot of books and gone there to live and he gives this report. Wants a missionary to come once every month or so and spend Sunday there. God seems to be answering the prayers of his people and the nation may be turned unto him in a day. If the church only does her closet [probably means in prayer] duty the King will surely soon appear.

With love to Dr. McMillan and kind regards to the brethren at 156 [Fifth Avenue, N.Y.] I am

Yours faithfully,

S.F. Moore

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea Correspondence, microfilm reel #178, Vol. 6, letter #3)

Seoul, Korea

January 16, 1896

Oliver R. Avison

Rev. F.F. Ellinwood, D.D.

Dear Sir:

The time has long passed when I should have written you but my time has been so fully occupied that all my correspondence is behind, I presume you have been more or less disturbed by the news from Korea during the last few months and perhaps more especially as the names of several of your missionaries have been bandied about in the Japanese papers as being connected more or less with the last affair at the Palace. I believe full reports of the several troubles have been already sent you so you are aware of the facts. The raid on the Palace of October 8<sup>th</sup> by the combined Japanese and Japan-trained soldiers, resulting in the supposed and possibly certain murder of the Queen roused the indignation of almost all foreigners who had learned to regard her with a considerable degree of respect. All the foreign legations also were exceedingly incensed over the affair and for several weeks refused to recognize the government that had thus seized the power.

The American Minister amongst others, took a leading part in protesting against this usurpation and as the King was very much alarmed over the affair, had requested that a few foreigners remain near him all the time and more especially at night. We, therefore, all took our turn in this work, and several times, when special danger was apprehended, quite a number of us went together and remained until the threatened trouble passed over.

On the occasion of the last attack when a counter move was made by the opposite party, I was in the palace, having been summoned there by His Majesty who was at the time indisposed. Dr. Underwood and Mr. Hulbert were also there by the request of the American Minister, because it was reported that there would be trouble there that night and it was thought wise that some foreigners should be near His Majesty if any disturbance should take place. Dr. Underwood and I both saw the King during the evening and he asked us if we would remain all night in the palace. As it happened, an attack really did take place that night and so we got mixed up in it although we took no part for or against either party. The first signal of disturbance was heard just before 12:30 [p.m.] and Dr. Underwood, Mr. Hulbert and I immediately hastened to the King's quarters and found him surrounded by several members of the government, while he was excitedly crying out for us to be called. General Dye, Colonel Nicustead, and General LeGendre remained with the soldiers who were formed in line around the King's gate.

We remained with the King and Crown Prince all night. They would not let us go but made us sit down beside them, and they held our hands and clung to us till daylight came and all seemed quiet. None of us knew that an attack would be made. Such rumors had been about before and nothing had occurred, and we were inclined to treat this report also as being scarcely credible. The result of it was disastrous to the hopes of the loyalist party as they made a complete failure of the attempt, and the pro-Japanese party were more firmly established in consequence. The Japanese made everything of the apparent connection of foreigners with the affair to throw blame on them and, by thus raising a big dust, to cover up their disgraceful connection with the attack of October 8<sup>th</sup> which resulted in the supposed death of the Queen and the practical imprisonment of the King. Miss Strong's teacher also was mixed up in the business and was taken prisoner, barely escaping with his life, being condemned to imprisonment for life.

1/16 & 1/21, 1896 – p.2 O.R.A.

There was certainly a good deal of circumstantial evidence to connect foreigners with the affair, especially as it was known that all openly condemned the manner in which the pro-Japanese party had seized power. I doubt not, if you see and believe extracts from the Japanese papers, you will conclude that you have a very wicked body of missionaries in Korea, but we rest in the confidence that you will [give] slight credence to wild stories in those papers until you have a chance to hear directly from Seoul. It turns out now that if the story of the loyalists is correct, the Queen was still alive and waiting to reenter the Palace when they should have succeeded. They had been in communication with the leader of the Palace Guards who professed to be in sympathy with them and who told them he could depend upon almost all the troops under his command to help them. They were to march during the night to one of the Palace gates, demand admission and he would arrange that the gates should be opened and they should walk right in. However, he seems to have been only leading them on to their destruction, for he revealed all their plans to those in power as fast as they were made known to him.

Song Do, January 21, 1896

I was so busy in Seoul that I did not get this finished and brought it into the country with me but find as little time here. I am now on a trip of 6 weeks with Dr. Underwood. Work in Seoul is prospering and as this is the easiest time in the year for me to get away I thought I would take advantage of it to take a trip into the country - my first one of any length. It is promising well so far. We have now been out 5 days.

Sincerely,

O.R. Avison

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

Your letter of Oct. 24 was most gladly received, as all your letters are. It found me in good health and at work in a way that I had feared would be impossible this fall and winter. I have never been more busy than since our return here after the Annual Meeting and I think I have never seen the prospects for our work more bright than they are at present. What we especially need now is the ability to take advantage of our opportunities and to make the most of them.

Our Training Class this winter was a success and is already multiplying our work. I wrote an account of the Class to Mr. John T. Underwood [founder of the Underwood Typewriter Company and brother of Korea missionary, Horace G. Underwood], requesting him to make known to you the contents of that letter. Since the class I have made a visit to the churches in and around Syoun An, 50 li from here. I found everything progressing nicely, a steady growth in knowledge and zeal and a strengthening of their position. I there received four members into the church by baptism and enrolled a number of Catechumens including six women. This village church is exerting a great influence far & near. Through the efforts of their leader who was an attendant upon the Class the two groups of Catechumens received last year have each succeeded in building or buying a small house for a church. I visited both of these places, preached to interested congregations and enrolled more Catechumens, some of them from two other magistracies. These latter in turn will now become the nucleus for another group, eventually to become another church. The Syoun An Church is now working for the development of a school on the model of our Primary School at Seoul. We could establish any number of schools did we furnish all the support, but the principle we have adopted is to render judicious assistance to the natives when they have first exerted all their strength to secure any desired work. At Syoun An I furnish 2/5 of the expense of the school, \$20.00 silver for the year, the other 3/5 (\$30.00) to be raised by the Christians. This Church also sends one of their members one Sunday a month to one of the sub-stations 16 miles away, while another member conducts one service every Sunday with the group of Catechumens in the other sub-station 2 miles away. They are thus helping others & are strengthening their own faith and zeal. Three of their members have just arranged to preach the gospel to the people in that whole region. One of them came in yesterday for books and these three men each going in a different direction will visit all the villages in their own and the adjoining magistracies of Cha San, Yung Yon, Suk Chen and An Ju from which repeated requests have come for instruction. These three men were attendant upon the class and went back to their homes full of faith and with rich spiritual blessings. These men can do this during the winter when they have much leisure (being farmers) but who is to look after the results of their work the rest of the year. Mr. Lee who is back from Seoul after a short time with his family during Christmas season has just started off to a part of the region on a double errand - to proclaim the gospel and to secure some timbers for building.

My teacher has just returned from a trip to still another section to the South - which he and I visited two months ago just before the Class assembled. In one of these sub-stations he finds the Catechumens standing firm in spite of bitter scorn and ridicule, meeting regularly in the little \$10.00 (silver) building which they secured for a church. In another large town where we have two Catechumens he found a field full of interested inquirers. This must also be followed up. Mr. Lee's teacher during Mr. Lee's absence - visited the section in Whang Hai province concerning which Mr. Lee reported at the Annual Meeting. He came back four days ago and reports a gathering of 60 men

from the several villages from which 4 men came to the Training Class and a gathering of 20 (?) men in the village in the Pong San magistracy, the result of the work of men who came in to the services at Pyeng Yang, talked with us here and took tracts and gospels back to their homes. These men beg us to send a teacher to stay with them for a month.

From the villages in that section which we visited last year, the man who started that work came in a fortnight ago. I examined him then and baptized him in our Church here (just two years after he became a Catechumen the day the first converts were baptized here). He has gone back as the official leader of that work and now I hear that they have secured a building, have established a school and are strengthening their position. This work has not been visited since my trip there last June. Next week Dr. Wells and I leave for a three weeks trip expecting to give careful attention to the instruction of these various groups, the examination of those formerly received as Catechumens, and to the organization of the whole work. This field ought to be visited at least 3 or 4 times a year.

The work in the city goes on, gaining steadily but calling for more time and a greater expenditure of energy the larger it grows. Nearly every Sunday we add to our number of Catechumens, while the number of regular attendants at the Sunday Services and mid-week prayer meetings is constantly growing. The church room enlarged two months ago with a seating capacity of 100 is already too small for the members, Catechumens and school boys, leaving no room for others.

With so many we are finding it difficult to give the instruction needed and some whom we might otherwise build up into steadfast Christians will doubtless drift away, while some of those who are received will no doubt come in with false motives and so prove unfaithful. We have had to expel one man from the Syoun An Church and now one of the Pyeng Yang members under suspension will I fear have to be expelled.

We have two Sunday Schools in the morning, both growing, the one at our residence in the "sarang" already being too large for the room.

I have now an invitation from some of the literary class living in the Oai Sung (the aristocratic suburb) about two miles from the city wall - to visit them with a view of explaining Christianity to some 30 of them who gather to read Christian books and gospels. Would that I had the time to give to them the attention and oversight which I should like to give, for I doubt not we should soon have in that suburb of well-to-do literary men a nucleus for another church here in Pyeng Yang.

I cannot neglect it altogether - but under such stress of work how is a man to heed your advice and apply "a little more force in the breeching"

It is surely a moral and spiritual impossibility for a man to keep from over-working himself under the circumstances in which we are placed. With work enough in the city to occupy all our time and work enough in four or five different directions in the country to occupy all the time of as many men it is hard indeed to have to continually postpone looking after this and that, decline repeated requests for visits and refuse that instruction which many are asking for.



1/21/1896 [#1] – p.3 S.A.M.

I am free to confess that at times I am greatly tempted to launch out and employ a number of natives to look after these places, but our better judgment holds us back. Not all our Christians are sufficiently instructed to warrant us in putting them into official positions. Nor do we believe it for the best interests of the work to multiply the number of employees so that they comprise any great proportion of the number of baptized men. When I read of Bishop Thoburn's work in India and notice that he has employees in the proportion of 1 to every 8 (or 6?) Communicants I contrast it with the methods laid down by Dr. Nevius which have appealed to us and to you with so much force and our better judgment says the latter promises the most enduring and hence most successful results.

Nevertheless, it does seem a shame that with such opportunities before us we should fail to provide at once for these people who are now filled with the spirit of enquiry. The Roman Catholics are at work in these same regions and so many of the villagers know not the difference. I doubt not that many in whom an interest has been aroused through our seed-sowing become part of the harvest of the French priests.

I do not believe that I have ever written you exaggerated accounts of our work, for I am conscious of always having strictly guarded myself against that and I am aware of how easy it is to deceive oneself and to mistake only a superficial curiosity for a real interest in the gospel, but in this case I cannot think that we are deceived. I cannot avoid the conviction that just now there is a very deep interest and a widespread spirit of inquiry which ought to be taken advantage of at once. How long this interest and spirit of inquiry will continue no one can tell, and so as a station we took action .....asking the Board to send us re-enforcements at once. I know how your own heart is enlisted in this work in Korea and I feel sure that we can look to you to see to it that the Minister asked by the Annual Meeting for Pyeng Yang - be sent immediately after the closing of the seminary year. He ought to be here by the 1st of August so as to take the first steamer after that date for Pyeng Yang. May I also put in this word saying that we are praying for a man who believes with all his heart that the "Gospel is the power of God" and that the Bible is the word of God - a man all on fire for the salvation of souls - an evangelist.

Is there not such a man in the senior class of McCormick Seminary before whom you can lay this appeal and who will start at once for Korea? If he is in earnest in his desire to serve the Lord here I can guarantee him the happiest life possible with plenty of hard work and rich blessings.

There are two or three other important matters concerning which I want to write you but of these I will write on separate sheets leaving the above account of our work and our need for immediate re-enforcements to claim your undivided attention thus far.

Sincerely yours in His work,

Samuel A. Moffett

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea Correspondence, microfilm reel #179, Vol. 8, letter #65)

Pyeng Yang, Korea,

January 21, 1896 [#2]

Samuel A. Moffett

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

The second object concerning which I wish to write is a request for a teacher for Industrial Dept. of boys' school in Seoul. While I feel that next to the lady asked for the girls' school, the need for another missionary in Pyeng Yang is most urgent, yet I was willing at the Annual Meeting to give the request for teacher for Industrial Dept. the preference.

I have not by any means lost my interest in the school to which I gave some pretty hard work and a good deal of thought during my 3 years superintendency of the same and since then as a member of the Educational Com. I have kept myself posted as to its work and needs.

We are, I believe, building wisely and upon a strong foundation in our plans for educational work. Now that we have the primary department well established with a Christian atmosphere, a Christian curriculum and Christian teachers - it is the model upon which we are seeking to establish primary schools throughout the country. We feel however that with the primary dept. thus well established the time has come for an advance step and the Annual Meeting recommended the gradual establishment of an academic dept. upon the same Christian basis, and the establishment of an Industrial Dept. Mr. Miller's hands are too full with Treasury work and with the responsibility of looking after nearly 100 boys in the primary dept. He cannot properly develop the academic dept. unless he has some one to assist him and to relieve him of some of the oversight of the school.

In sending an assistant - better far to send one who can also establish and direct an Industrial Department which will prove not only a great blessing to those who may go forth from the school as mechanics and artisans, but it will be a great physical and mental benefit to those who, proving themselves good scholars and earnest Christians, are put into the Higher Department for a training which will fit them to go forth as teachers and preachers, medical assistants, etc. With some industrial training our future teachers & preachers will be broader men, more in sympathy with the people and far better fitted to live among these people on small salaries. As I understand the sentiment of the Mission, it is not that we want to furnish a mere secular or English education (no one, I believe, advocates teaching English) but we do want to give an education which will send forth Christian men with sound bodies as well as sound minds and men with right ideas as to the dignity of labor.

The teacher who can conduct the Industrial Dept. will also be able to relieve Mr. Miller to such an extent that he can then give his main energy to the spiritual needs of the school and the development of the academic course of study.

We are hoping that this school will soon be able to supply us with enough good material to supply our need for teachers of Primary Schools established with the same course of study as at Seoul so that these schools shall be feeders for the Academic Dept. there.

Another five years ought to see us ready for a Collegiate Department in Seoul and Academies in Pyeng Yang, Gensan [Wonsan] and Fusan, the work in these Academies to fall mainly upon natives sent forth from the Academy in Seoul.

1/21/96 [#2] – p.2 S.A.M.

Mr. Miller is doing capital work in the School and under his direction we bid fair to have a higher school on such a basis as will send out men fitted for Christian work among their own people.

When you are planning for the new work to be taken up this year, I sincerely hope that it will be found advisable to provide this Industrial Teacher for Korea.

Very sincerely,

Samuel A. Moffett

Pyeng Yang,

January 21, 1896 [#3]

Samuel A. Moffett

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

This third letter is intended to bring clearly before you the fact that we now feel confident that we have permanent and undisputed occupation of the city and that our plans for building, etc., are made accordingly in confident expectation of the presence of the ladies and of the Board's appropriations. Mr. Lee will bring his family up here about the 1st of April - by the first steamer after the ice leaves the river. Mrs. Lee told him as he left home this time that she was not going to wait any longer and that when she came up in the spring it would not be for a visit but for good and for all. Dr. Wells and I are consequently jubilant, not to make mention of Mr. Lee's feelings. My own judgment is that there is no reason at all why the ladies should not come up this spring and become permanently settled here. We need them very much indeed and they will find a large work before them at once. We now have 17 female Catechumens here and a lady will immediately have access to hundreds of women waiting to hear the gospel. In this connection I want to endorse all that Dr. Wells has written about the practicability and advisability of having his fiancee come back this summer. What we should all like to see would be arrangements made to have Miss Ribble leave America so as to reach Japan the last of July. Dr. Wells can meet her there, be married, and return to Korea so as to reach Pyeng Yang Sept. 1st just at the close of the hot weather. We should prefer that she should thus come directly here that she may feel that she is settled here before visiting Seoul at the time of the Annual Meeting which will be a month or so later. This will enable them to make all needed preparations for the winter before the Annual Meeting.

Dr. Wells has of course been impatient to have Miss Ribble come out at once, but I did not feel like endorsing his request before now - waiting until I saw the condition of things here this winter. The way is clear now. Japanese merchants with their wives are settled in the city and are here to stay - the Nippon Yusen Keishan (Japanese line) steamers will run here regularly after this spring. We are now ready to go right ahead and we need the presence of the ladies. Without doubt at the next Annual Meeting we shall ask for a lady missionary for the station.

I hope you will see your way clear to arrange at once with Miss Ribble for her departure so as to reach here in July.

Very sincerely yours,

Samuel A. Moffett

Pyeng Yang, Korea

January 21, 1896 [#4]

Samuel A. Moffett

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

This fourth letter is in order to bring before you more clearly our request for Appropriations which will soon be acted upon by the Board.

Now that our work is developing so rapidly and our position here so secure we earnestly desire that there should be no failure in making provision for the work according to the appropriations asked for the station by the Annual Meeting.

Just after the Annual Meeting I wrote of our plans for buildings and then urged that the appropriations for one home at least be made. Now I want to write a little more specifically and urge that both appropriations be made if at all possible. On the face of things, with Mr. & Mrs. Lee & Mrs. Webb here the necessity for providing a home for them is apparent. With Dr. & Mrs. Wells to be here in September there will also be need to soon provide sic [them] with permanent quarters. I have been hanging on the fence or climbing up a tree for a good many years and while I should expect to do that for another year or two, I am beginning to hope that I may plan for quarters which I can call my own and from which I shall not have to be dispossessed every year or so. We have just talked over the whole question pretty thoroughly and know just what we desire to do.

The building at present occupied by us and the rooms occupied by my teacher and family with the room used this year for the Training Class can be altered at an expense of \$1000.00 or less (less, I feel sure) so as to give us first class quarters for a single gentleman and one large room to be used for a native church, Training Class room or other native work. It is understood among us that if so altered this is eventually to become my quarters. In the meantime, however, this will be made to house Mr. Lee & family & Dr. Wells and wife while I and the minister to come will as I said "hang out on the fence" or what is better, occupy a small house adjoining this which we have purchased with private funds.

When Mr. Lee gets his house up and occupies it, Dr. Wells will take his quarters. I or someone else will move into the Doctor's quarters and then we will be ready to proceed with a house for Dr. Wells, my house to become available for me upon my return from furlough which I hope will be granted me in the summer of '97.

We are all of us willing to put up with cramped quarters for as long as is necessary but we want to get the people needed for the work on the field as soon as possible.

We cannot wait until the Board's appropriation is available if we are to have Mr. Lee's family here this spring. Fortunately I have \$1000.00 on hand for the purpose of building a hospital. The hospital can not be built this year and it is not needed at once as we are using another small building for dispensary and hospital of one ward 8 x 8 ft.

We shall proceed at once with the alterations of this place using the hospital fund which I shall expect to receive back as soon as the appropriations are available in May. Part of the hospital fund has already been used in purchase of site adjoining this - a building for the keeper and a building adjoining the church in the city which will be torn down and the material used here. If the balance does not suffice for the alterations needed on this building, we shall have to draw from other private funds. These however we shall need this summer and through the year for many kinds of work for which we have not asked the Board to appropriate.

I think there is an advantage in having to submit to some inconveniences when one first arrives on

1/21/96 [#4] – p.2 S.A.M.

the field and I am sure that the ladies will be as happy in their cramped quarters as they will be hereafter when better and larger provision is made for them.

Up to the present we have put in most of our time and energy in the development and care of our native work and while we do not now propose to neglect this we must give time now to the question of our settlement here in permanent quarters in order that we may the more effectively carry on this work. We are hoping that we shall not have to use all of the \$1000.00 gold asked for altering this place and not all of the \$2500.00 gold asked for Mr. Lee's house, but facilities for building are not nearly so good as in Seoul or the ports and as the winters here are colder - provisions for this require greater expense.

One other point - You may think that we shall not be able to house the new missionary we ask to have sent this summer, but I assure you that we can do so even tho he should bring a wife. We Pyeng Yang-ites consider ourselves good managers and you can trust us to provide some way or other for every man & woman you will send us - until such time as the Board sees the way clear to give them better quarters.

Pardon me for taking so much of your time by writing at such length, but we are confronted here with a situation which we greatly desire you should appreciate. Please do not cut us on appropriations unless it is an absolute necessity for if anything we ought to have more than we asked for.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours in His work,

Samuel A. Moffett

Pyongyang, Korea

January [?], 1896

Samuel A. Moffett

To the Editor of "The Korean Repository"

Dear Sir: -

The editorial on "Polygamists in the Church" in the September Repository is calculated to give a very erroneous impression as to the position of the Presbyterian Church on the subject of Polygamy. Will you kindly give space to the following statements?

(1) The Presbyterian Church does and always has taken the position that Polygamists cannot be admitted to the church.

(2) The General Assembly had before it this year a request from the Synod of India asking that decision in these cases be left to the synod,, but the General Assembly simply re-affirmed the position of the Church.

(3) The Presbyterian Council in Korea cannot change the fundamental law of the Church and has never been ignorant of the fact.

The Council also knows full well that the question before it is not, "Can a man continuing in the polygamous relationship be admitted to the Church?" but is, "What shall be done in the case of a man who has been a polygamist or who has concubines when he applies for admission to the Church?"

Samuel A. Moffett

(from the "Korean Repository", Vol. III, 1896 - collection of Samuel Hugh Moffett)

Pyeng Yang, Korea

January 27, 1896 (Rec'd Mar. 10th)

Graham Lee

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

Your last letter was forwarded to me from Seoul and I want to assure you that it has given me great pleasure to read it. It was a great surprise to me that you obtained the impression of me that you did and how you obtained the impression is a mystery to me for I'm sure Moffett believes in me and he knows me better than anyone else on the field. But it is no use to think about, or refer to the past, so we will let it go and begin again anew.

We are simply swamped with work. There is enough for five men to look after. Every day enquirers keep coming in and the work grows apace. Have just returned from a trip of 110 li to the north to look after some timber for our house and of course at the same time sold books and preached the Gospel.

Tomorrow morning Moffett and Doctor [Wells] start for Whang Hai Do to visit the stations down there where we have a most encouraging work. This district properly belongs to me, and I ought to go at this time, but we have about fifteen carpenters at work getting the house ready for Mrs. Lee in the spring, so it was thought best for me to remain and look after the carpenters while Moffett takes the trip. We are going on getting this old house ready using private funds in doing so. If Mrs. Lee comes up in the spring we must do this work now and Mrs. Lee will surely be up in the spring unless something unforeseen happens.

This year besides an appropriation for house building we asked for an appropriation of \$1000 gold. Please be sure that we get these two appropriations for we must build immediately and we need the \$1000 gold to use on the house we are now fixing. You are as anxious as I am that my family should get settled here as soon as possible, so I am sure that you will see that we get these appropriations. We also asked for an appropriation of \$500 gold for grading. It is very necessary that we should have this also. If the Board wishes us to follow up properly this most interesting and rapidly growing work they must back us up with supplies.

Let me also say a word about that new missionary we are asking for. I surely need not emphasize our need for you know how greatly we need him. The Board must send him for the work simply demands it. When God is so evidently leading the way the Church cannot but follow.

Doctor is very anxious that Miss Ribble should be sent out soon and we all feel the same now, for as soon as Mrs. Lee is here it will be better for all concerned to have Doctor's wife here also.

In regard to the appropriations we asked this year please do not cut us down. It has been our policy heretofore to ask for only what we needed and this year we have done the same. We want all we asked for and we shall feel crippled if you cut us down. In regard to the appropriation for building a new house let me say a word. We would like to have the full \$2500.00 gold, and for this reason. Building in Pyeng Yang is much more expensive than anywhere else in Korea therefore we ought to have the full \$2500.00.



1/27/96 – p.2 G.L.

Last Sunday we baptized four men and received a large number as catechumens. We are continually thanking God for the way His Spirit is working among these people.

Yours sincerely,

Graham Lee

Pyeng Yang, Korea

February 1, 1896

Samuel A. Moffett

My Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

Dr. Wells and I have just returned from a two weeks trip to the substations in northern Whang Hai province, the section upon which Mr. Lee reported to the Annual Meeting. We were pushed for time and this with the severity of the weather prevented us from giving all the attention to the work which I should have liked. Nevertheless we did what we could and the condition of the field with what we were able to accomplish shows the wisdom of our decision to take the trip notwithstanding the weather and the urgent work in Pyeng Yang.

In the 3 substations of Sin An Po, Tai Tong Chon, and Sun Mi where we reported Catechumens last year, I had the privilege of baptizing 28 of these and of enrolling some 30 new Catechumens including a number of women. In all of these places there is most gratifying growth and our position there is steadily gaining in strength and stability, while from these places a knowledge of the gospel is being more widely proclaimed. At Sun Mi the people had raised half the amount needed for the purchase of a building for church and school purposes. The Pyeng Yang Christians sent them a contribution and we then added a small sum, so that the object was accomplished. At Tai Tong Chon our hearts were made glad as we witnessed the evidence of the deep hold which the gospel has taken upon the hearts of all. It is a small village but nearly every one has become a Christian and all, men, women and children, observing the Lord's day with great delight. To the hard working women this is indeed a great blessing. Here among others is an old man of 64 with six sons, the oldest being 43 years old. This man and the 5 oldest sons were baptized and several of the women of the family reported as Catechumens.

These places need more attention and we hope soon to put a native helper at work in that section. We also established 3 new substations enrolling over 60 Catechumens almost all of them men, the heads of families. In one of these also by a little help from the Pyeng Yang Christians and from us they have secured a good building for a church and as this is in a densely populated section, people from some 15 or more villages gather here. In the section touched by this visit we now have Christians or Catechumens in nearly 40 villages gathering in 6 different places for worship on the Lord's Day.

We returned to Pyeng Yang and found that Mr. Lee had made good headway in the work of preparation of quarters for his family. As I wrote you before, in anticipation of the Board's appropriations, we are using private funds for the alteration of our present quarters with the idea that this shall become one of the permanent residences - to be occupied successively by Mr. Lee & family, then by Dr. and Mrs. Wells and eventually to become my settled abode. The Pyeng Yang station thinks it knows how to adapt itself to circumstances and with this house so altered we hold ourselves in readiness to house Mr. Lee's family, Dr. Wells & wife, myself, two new men, and the wife of one of them if he has one, provided the new men know how to get along comfortably for a year or so in a room 8 x 8. We have a sort of Communistic settlement here so that sitting room, dining room, kitchen, store rooms, cots, tables, chairs, books, bicycles, servants, etc., etc., are common property until our quarters are enlarged. Please have no doubt as to our ability to provide quarters for all the people you can send us - until such time as the Board can provide funds for their more comfortable and proper accommodation. We shall look for Dr.

Wells' fiancée in August and either at that time or soon for another Minister.

Work in Pyeng Yang goes ahead steadily. Since I last wrote you we have received by baptism 5 more members and enrolled a number of catechumens. Since the Annual Meeting the station reports 49 baptisms and some 150 new catechumens and we are certainly conservative in all our methods.

The work in Eui Ju and the north is still calling in vain for a visit. I had fully expected to go there the end of this month, but there is so much to do here and so many calls from work established nearer to Pyeng Yang that it seems necessary to again postpone the visit to the north. Preparation for Mr. Lee's family who expect to come in April add to the work here and as Mr. Lee must be absent in March when he goes to Seoul to pack and move, my presence here is essential. Both Mr. Lee and Dr. Wells have protested against my going to Eui Ju at this time and as I cannot but feel that their protest is justified, however much I long to look after the promising work around Sak Ju at the north, I must coincide with their judgment and once more postpone that trip until May.

This however but emphasizes again our need for two new men. I ought to be giving more time to the training of native workers not only for the good of the work but because I am trying to cover too much territory in my itineration and cannot properly look after it all. I hope soon to be able to give half my time to itineration and half to training and catechumen classes.

Now a word as to political disturbances and their bearing upon our work. For years to come it is probable that Korea will be disturbed and from time to time there will be wild rumors of revolutions and political changes. If we wait until all is quiet before going ahead with our Mission work, I fear that this generation of Koreans will pass away with but little knowledge of Christ. We are here to preach the gospel to the people no matter who may have the political control and in the midst of the disturbances our work is pushing steadily forward. We look to the Board to keep us supplied just as fully as the contributions of the Church will permit. Of course, Russia may some day take Korea and drive us all out, but it is not ours to anticipate that unless it be to anticipate it by so much the more widespread proclamation of the gospel while opportunity offers. We ought not now to delay in providing permanent quarters here for the station. We are on the most friendly terms with officials and people and ought now to put our stakes in strong and fast. Again I want to urge the granting of all that we have asked for buildings and for grading, fencing, etc. We asked nothing last year because of the war and the uncertainty. This year we ask only for sufficient to provide good quarters for one family and cramped quarters for all the rest. We need to get Mr. Lee & his family in their permanent home by next winter if possible. For several years to come they will probably have to keep some of us as Boarders while we are in cramped quarters. The winters here are more severe and are longer than in the other stations necessitating the building of a warm house so that we did not feel that we ought to ask less than \$2000.00 gold for the house altho we hope we shall not have to use all of it. I am sure we are trying to keep our request for appropriations down to actual needs and the \$500.00 gold asked for grading, draining & fencing is not for one house but for the whole compound which will eventually include at least three houses, hospital, school and buildings for native work.

2/01/96 – p.3 S.A.M.

It may seem that we are asking appropriations for two houses in one year but in reality the \$1000.00 gold should have been available this year. Other stations have been supplied one house at a time as the men arrived on the field. We have been going ahead with our work without houses and now have three men on the field and clamoring for two more to keep up with the work. I think we have a strong claim for a liberal allowance this year and we are going ahead confident that the Lord will provide all that we ought to have.

News from the home papers indicating greater interest in Mission and a better state of the Board's Treasury give us reason for great gratitude and hopefulness of enlarged work.

In closing I want to thank you for your letter to Mr. Lee and I rejoice that there is a perfectly frank and clear understanding between you. It has done him good and has made him even more than ever eager to go forward in his work. It matters not now how the misunderstanding arose. You will yet have great reason to rejoice over the work which Mr. & Mrs. Lee will do in this field.

With sincere regards and prayers constantly offered for blessings upon the Lord's work which together we are seeking to carry on.

Very sincerely yours,

Samuel A Moffett

Seoul, Korea

February 12, 1896

Daniel L. Gifford

Dear Dr. Ellinwood,-

The long-expected has transpired, the government of Korea has apparently passed into the hands of Russia. Russian soldiers had been coming in until there were perhaps 300 in the city. Yesterday morning at half past seven o'clock, the King and Crown Prince quietly entered the Russian Legation compound. The Korean Chief of Police was soon summoned and threw in his allegiance with the King (who, you will remember, has since October 8<sup>th</sup> been practically a prisoner in the hands of the Cabinet). A new Cabinet was called into being. Official placards were soon posted up, in which among other things, the obnoxious government order was rescinded which went into effect a month and a half ago ordering the cutting of the top-knots, and which the people so bitterly resented that insurrections had arisen upon its attempted enforcement in the country. Six Cabinet officers were declared outlaws, two of whom, the *Prime Minister* and the *Minister of Agriculture and Commerce*, were captured. They were taken to the Police Headquarters, then their throats were promptly cut and their bodies were taken to Chōng Nō, the business center of the city, known as "the big bell place", and thrown upon the highway. Here a large crowd soon collected which presently developed into a furious mob that wreaked its vengeance with clubs and stones on the lifeless bodies.

The *Minister of the Home Office* was captured, but a band of Japanese soldiers rescued him and took him to their barracks. This morning all the men in prison were released. The King remains at the Russian Legation and the foreign settlement is strongly guarded by Korean soldiery, into which no ordinary Korean can at present enter without a pass. The Japanese are undemonstrative and it is believed by some they will let the Russians take possession of the country without a contest. Will it mean a change in the map, or only a Russian protectorate, or what? I suppose we shall soon know.

To change the subject to matters more personal to myself, a recent mail brought me a letter from Mr. [Robert E.] Speer in which he asked for the data contained in my missionary correspondence on the baptism of polygamists. I have complied with his request by preparing with some pains a compilation of the letters in a manuscript entitled, *The Polygamous Applicant: What missionaries in Japan, China and India think of him*. The document when completed aggregated some 60 large pages. This manuscript I turn over to Mr. Speer and yourself. You can show it to anyone you please. If you consider that it contains material that a larger circle would like to study, it can be abridged into an article, or you can publish it as a whole in the form of a pamphlet or little book. All this I leave to the discretion of Mr. Speer and yourself. I give full power to do with the manuscript what you please. Should you decide that it is best to publish as a book or pamphlet, I should be glad to have twenty-two copies sent to me which can be charged to me through the Mission Treasurer. And again, if the decision is to publish, as the subject is one upon which a great many people have a strong prejudice, and my name is unknown, perhaps a brief introductory note written by Mr. Speer or yourself, might be helpful. However, in this as in everything else, the matter is entirely at the discretion of Mr. Speer and yourself.

Yours sincerely,  
D.L. Gifford

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea Correspondence, microfilm reel #178, Vol. 6, letter #10)

Virginia City, Nevada

Feb. 20, 1896

Charles H. Fish

My dear Nellie, [adopted daughter younger than natural daughter, Alice, whom he calls "Allie"]

Your letter of the 19th made good time & reached me today. I was delighted to get it although I have been treated so kindly and rushed about from one friend to another that I have been delighted all the time. This morning I rode twelve miles to Empire and visited the Williams family where Allie and I had such a good time years ago. Came back at 2 p.m. and got my breakfast so you may know I was rushed. This afternoon I have been underground in two mines and it is now nearly dark. Yesterday I spent all day down in the mines and the day before I arrived here at noon and spent the rest of the day with a candle in my hand groping about 1700 feet below the sunshine. Yesterday I had a ride of 4 miles & return in one tunnel with a mule for an engine and six people in the car. We made the return trip of 4 miles in 35 minutes. It was fun.....but I should not want to go every day for fun.

I cannot tell until tomorrow whether I get home this week. If I do go and we conclude to spend Sunday in Lylton(?) I will telegraph for you to get on board. I am very much afraid I cannot come. I have started out singlehanded with my Lord on my side I trust, to try the experiment of closing the mines on Sunday and I think tomorrow will tell the tale. Pray for me and for the cause that this people may see what they have not seen for many years - a day of sacred rest. Give my love to Miss Chase. You will hear from me I hope very soon. The Lord bless my darling Nellie.

Affectionately Your father,

Charles H. Fish

(from the Samuel H. Moffett collection of Samuel A. Moffett papers)

Seoul, Korea

March 5th, '96 (Rec'd Apr. 15th)

Graham Lee

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:-

Mr. Moffett and I came down from Pyeng Yang a few days since leaving Dr. Wells alone to hold the fort. Mr. Moffett was not well and very much worn by his years of hard work. Both Dr. and I demanded that he leave Korea for a short time and take a much needed rest so he is now on his way to Shanghai, to be gone two months, I hope. I shall return to Pyeng Yang immediately unless there is trouble along the road, and if there should be, I shall wait and go up by the first boat. There are reports now that the road between here and Song Do on the way to Pyeng Yang is in the hands of a band of robbers, and that traveling is dangerous, but I put very little faith in such reports. When we left Pyeng Yang all was quiet and I trust there will be no disturbance there. The country was very much incited over the hair cutting [gentlemen were ordered to cut off their topknots] but now since the order has gone forth allowing every man to do as he chooses the excitement has gone down and with the exception of bands of robbers here and there the country seems to be fairly quiet. Of course, there is intense hatred against the Japanese and Japanese who are alone in the country are in very much danger. Some thirty or forty Japanese have been killed by the Koreans and others will be killed unless the Japanese seek the ports or soldiers are sent to protect them. The Japanese government is sending in several hundred more soldiers to protect their people here.

The King is still at the Russian Legation and evidently he intends to stay there for the present at least. It would be as much as his life is worth to go back to the Palace now, all of which the King knows very well. Japan seems to have stepped out and Russia seems to have stepped in. Now we are all waiting to see what the next turn will bring up. It is hard to see how Japan can regain the ground she has lost in Korea. When she stabbed the Queen she gave the death blow to her political prospects here - thus it appears to many of us.

Our work in Pyeng Yang grows apace and we are more in need of that new man than ever before. The Sunday before leaving Pyeng Yang I received nineteen new catechumens which makes over two hundred since the Annual Meeting. Don't let reports about troubles here influence the Board about giving us the appropriations asked for nor about sending out that new man. If the new man is married, all the better, as his wife will be company for Mrs. Lee.

Mr. Moffett's going to Shanghai has changed my plans a little about moving. I expected to be packing my goods now, but instead I must go back to Pyeng Yang once more and get the building finished before I can take my family up.

Mrs. Lee is very well and looks forward eagerly to the time when she will be able to go to Pyeng Yang. I hope now that we will get up there by June, but we don't seem to be able to count much on the future out here.

Sincerely yours,

Graham Lee

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea Correspondence, microfilm reel #179, Vol. 8, letter #71)

Seoul, Korea

April 8, 1896

Graham Lee

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

Dr. Wells and I returned from Pyeng Yang yesterday making the trip down in two days. The distance registered by our cycle meters is 161 miles so you see we had to keep a pretty steady gait to make the trip in two days. When a man has a wife and baby pulling at this end it is quite an incentive to rapid wheeling. Our house is all ready except the papering which will take only a few days to do. I will begin packing our things immediately and just as soon as everything is packed we - that is my family and I will leave, provided we can catch a steamer then.

Our work is still growing steadily, much to our joy. During the last three Sundays I received 30 new catechumens and these were from the city alone. Out in the country villages there are many more waiting to be received. Just now with Moffett away, with these building operations on my hands and my family to move, you see it is impossible for me to do my itinerating. Will get out and look after this country work just as soon as it is possible to do so. Am looking for Moffett's return about the middle of this month. When he comes he and Wells will immediately go up to Pyeng Yang and be ready to meet me when I come with my family.

In regard to Moffett's health, from what both Dr. Wells and Dr. Avison say, I feel that it is imperative that he return home this summer for a good vacation. If he takes a vacation now he will regain his strength, but if he does not and tries to remain here longer, I fear he will have a complete breakdown. Moffett is a rare man - one in ten thousand. I never expect to find another man with whom I can work in such perfect harmony. He has laid the foundation of a grand and growing work - a work that is most promising, most interesting, and one that gives every evidence of being solid. After Moffett's return home the burden of this work will fall largely upon me and I realize only too well how unfitted I am for the responsibility, but I shall do my best and what I can't do I'm not going to worry about.

#### Dr. Wells' Affairs

Now will you please let me say a word about Dr. Wells and his affairs. He has shown me a letter that you lately wrote him giving the death-blow to his hopes of a speedy marriage. It is very evident that you could not have received letters from both Moffett and me on this subject or you would not have written as you did. It is my firm opinion and one I have arrived at after thinking much over the subject that it would not only be best for Dr. Wells and Miss Ribble to be married soon but also that it will be far better for the work, and I will go farther and say that if they are compelled to wait the full three years it will be a positive hindrance to the work. As for the reasons that influence me in forming this opinion I give them below.

1st - I have been with Dr. Wells much this winter and part of the time have been with him alone and this has given me an opportunity to study his disposition. From what I know of the Doctor I feel sure that it will be much better for him to be married as soon as possible. He feels that there is no valid reason why the young lady should not be sent out immediately and in this, both Moffett and I concur. Were there some good reason why the



young lady should not come now, Dr. Wells would be as willing to wait as the next man, but when there is no good reason for the delay and every reason against it, I for one don't blame the Doctor for wanting her sent immediately. Feeling as he does and being of the temperament that he is the separation makes him restless and the simple fact is that it is very hard for him to settle down to his work while the conditions remain as they are. He needs the help of an earnest wife, and from what I have learned of Miss Ribble, she seems to be just the woman he needs. You tell him to get the language and seem to fear that if he gets married now it will spoil him for all his work. It is my opinion that he will get the language much faster after being married, and I feel sure that he will be able to do better work along all lines. This is not to say that Dr. Wells is not doing good work now, far from it: from reports about his work you have heard you know somewhat of what he has been doing, but I do say and say it with all the emphasis that I can that he will do better work after he is married. I have a high regard for Dr. Wells and am sure he has the making of a good missionary, but he needs very much the help of an earnest wife and he needs it now. If he is the right kind of man and she is the right kind of woman, their marriage now will not hinder either of them in their work, but if he is not the right kind of man or if she is not the right kind of woman then the Board has made a great mistake in ever sending him at all.

2nd - The work needs Miss Ribble and needs her immediately. We have a work started among the women now that is more than Mrs. Lee can look after and Mrs. Lee will do all she is able to do. There are a large number of women who are exceedingly anxious to be taught and who are waiting patiently until someone comes to teach them. On this trip I arranged to have these women meet every Wednesday at the house of Mr. Moffett's teacher and he and my teacher are to instruct them. To show you how anxious some of these women are for instruction let me give you a fact or two: For several Sundays we have had an old woman come to church and sit in the audience with the men - an unheard of thing in Korea for a woman to do - so anxious is she for instruction. You see, our church has not yet been enlarged and we have no room in which the women can meet.

Beside this old woman there is a young girl who has come to church several Sundays dressed in boy's clothes. She was raised for a dancing girl but since she has heard of the Gospel she says she is going to be a dancing girl no longer; and that she may learn more, she puts on boys clothes and comes to church.

These facts simply indicate the pressing need there is that this growing work among the women should be looked after properly. As I said, Mrs. Lee will do all she can, but she will need help in order to do justice to the work. If Miss Ribble could come out immediately she would be a great help to Mrs. Lee even while she is learning to speak the language. If the work does not call loudly for Miss Ribble to be sent immediately then I know nothing about the needs of our field. In the face of these facts is there any reason why the Board should delay sending her? Of course I personally should like to have her come because she will be company for Mrs. Lee but in writing this I have tried not to be influenced by the personal element but to think only of the work. I hope that before this the Board has reconsidered their action and if not, I plead most earnestly that the question be reconsidered for I feel sure that if the Board waits two years before sending her a great mistake will be made.

#### Houses

Now a word about houses. I enclose you plans for three houses, one of which is finished, one will be finished shortly after we get back to Pyeng Yang and the third will be finished either this fall or next spring. These three houses we expect to complete for the

one appropriation of \$2500.00 gold.

When I wrote asking for an appropriation of \$2500.00 gold to build our house I did it expecting to have to buy all new material - and new material is very expensive in Pyeng Yang. We had tried to find a Korean house fit to move but the only houses fit to move that we could find we could not buy. On this trip the Lord opened the way for us to get just the houses we want. For \$140.00 silver I was able to buy two houses - which two houses I can move, join together and make a house according to the plan I send you. See plan #3.

Houses #1 and 2 are old houses that are now on the place. At one time I thought it poor economy to try and remodel either of these houses, for I thought the timbers were too badly decayed, but I have changed my mind after seeing what a transformation we have been able to make in house #1 and for what a small amount we have been able to do it. To fix my house will, of course, cost much more than to fix either of the other two, for the two houses I have bought are inside the city wall and they will have to be torn down, moved and set up again and many timbers will have to be replaced by new ones but I feel pretty sure that we can get all the work done inside the one appropriation. All three of us are of one mind in our desire to have our houses comfortable and healthful and we are likewise all of one mind in our desire to have them look as much like other Korean houses as possible.

We have had a house in mind for Dr. Wells so on this trip I bought a splendid Korean house for \$73.00 silver with private funds. This I shall hold until the Board is able to give us a small appropriation and then we will move the house and fix it for Dr. Wells. Property is very cheap in Pyeng Yang just now but before long it is going to go up in price so I thought best to buy this house and hold it. It is a good house and will make six good rooms.

By the first of September we will have house room enough to accommodate my family, Dr. Wells and his wife, the new man and his wife. By that time Mr. Moffett will doubtless be in America. Dr. Wells and his wife, the new man and his wife can live in house #1 and can board with us, who will be in house #2 until house #3 is finished. We have everything all arranged so send on Miss Ribble and the new man and his wife immediately.

I have written at some length and pardon me if I have been prolix - I only wanted to get the case clearly before you.

Sincerely yours,

Graham Lee

Seoul, Korea

April 11, 1896

J. Hunter Wells

Rev. F.F. Ellinwood, New York

My dear Doctor:

You will not be surprised when I tell you that your letter of Feb. 7, 1896 was a great surprise to me, and for the time being a bitter disappointment. I am very glad to note, however, that the action of the Board was against your wishes and am happy in the hope that since you are already in possession of information showing the expediency of Miss Ribble's early departure that you have perhaps even already secured a reconsideration before this letter requesting it reaches you.

Your sentences concerning expenditures came to us of Pyeng Yang with peculiar pleasure for Messrs Lee and Moffett were the first persons of this Mission to propose and carry into effect the plan of buying Korean houses, removing, remodeling and reconstructing to suit modern requirements. This plan enabled them to put up the Girls school and all outbuildings, together with Mr. Gifford's house so cheaply and also to do what we already have in Pyeng Yang - viz. make three large houses, one entirely completed, one requiring only about 20 days more work and the other all ready to put up, the total cost of all of which now looks to be less than is usually used up for one. This answers your, or rather the Board's, objections of no house money for one.....to construct, for at the present moment there is not only a house of seven rooms counting kitchen, etc. ready for occupancy but another larger adjoining it which will be ready in 20 days and then by this fall another yet will be ready for occupancy. We have plenty of room paid for and are fully prepared, as Mr. Moffett wrote you, to not only provide amply for all the present needs of the station which counts Miss Ribble as here this summer, but room for another man or another family which you may send out in the Fall.

Concerning the matter of expenditures as applied to the medical work, I will say that if the Board allows the full amount I asked for I will have to report near the end of the year as having seen and prescribed for nearly 10,000 (ten thousand) patients at an expense to the Board of less than \$178 gold. If you have any other doctor or station doing this amount of work with less money I would like very much to know how they manage it. In all other lines of mission work such as school helpers, chapels, church expense, etc. you will know that Pyeng Yang has done and is doing a maximum of work on a minimum of money.

As to the main burden of your letter concerning Miss Ribble's coming at once you are long ere this in possession of information which without further addition or explanation shows not only the expediency of her immediate departure but the appropriateness and necessity of it.

One word concerning the promise or agreement or "contract" as you call it. You know very well, I suppose, that such a contract, being against public policy, is illegal. Mr. Moffett, by the way, informs me that he never made any contract with the Board or anyone else, to remain unmarried for five years as you seemed to be under the impression he did. As to the promise or agreement, you will see by my letter of Mar. 4, 1895 that I

4/11/96 – p.2 J.H.W.

stated that her coming must be dependent upon circumstances and since the Lord has made the occasion appropriate now we have all of us in Pyeng Yang united in the request that she be sent out immediately.

Messrs. Moffett and Lee have and will write further to you concerning her coming, but their letters will only emphasize a matter which must certainly be without further necessity of it. I therefore, if you have not already done so, respectfully request you to present our petitions to the Board and ask you as a personal favor to use your best endeavors to secure her early departure for certainly the work in Pyeng Yang is in urgent need of her.

I have instructed Dr. A.J. Brown to draw on my brother Frank for \$100 towards her expenses out but would only like it done if it is absolutely necessary as to do it will make me make a serious and inadvisable sacrifice. I have used all the private funds I could command in the work at Pyeng Yang as it has pressed upon me and so can't spare more.

We are all very happy with the early departure of Mr. Lee & family for by the time you get this they will doubtless all be settled permanently in Pyeng Yang.

I am down here in Seoul for a few days on business of the station and for a slight rest for the five months steady work and grind at Pyeng Yang has told upon me somewhat [in] loss of flesh and worry. But the worry is more due to the misunderstanding which brought about the action of inexpediency than overwork, though 4000.....patients, etc. etc. etc. as you know, in five months was a little wearying.

Our plans concerning Mr. Moffett are if his health permits to have him go back to Pyeng Yang with me when he returns in a few days from Shanghai and then in the summer to leave for America. Mr. Moffett, I believe, would have done as much work married as he has unmarried and would not now be broken down as he is. But I will not discuss that question here. I am prepared, however, to furnish you some statistics concerning unmarried missionaries in Korea which must positively disprove the theories you advanced in your letter of Feb. 7.

And now, Dr. Ellinwood, I must close. I beg your pardon for the length of this and for any sentences which the disappointment and the Board's action may have inappropriately prompted. I sincerely trust and hope that her coming may be as we all in Pyeng Yang desire, for all our efforts to have her sent at once have been prompted by the sincere belief based on constant prayer to our Lord, that her coming was and is urgent first, and above all, for the work's sake.

Yours sincerely

J. Hunter Wells

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea Correspondence, microfilm reel #178, Vol.5, letter #25)

Seoul, Korea

May 4, 1896

(Rec'd June 8, '96)

Samuel A. Moffett

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

As you have heard long ago from Dr. Wells and Mr. Lee, I was forced much to my regret to take a little vacation from work. The winter's work had proven too severe a strain and as you know I have not been very well for something over a year. However, I am now back again, well and eager to get among our people in Pyeng Yang.

I landed in Chemulpo [Inchon] and was met with a sight which did me more good than anything I have seen for a long time. Mr. Lee had his family and all his earthly possessions on board the boat ready for the final occupation of Pyeng Yang and by this time they are probably all of them settling down in our property there. You know how I have longed for this and I cannot say how grateful I am that it is accomplished. I came immediately to Seoul to attend to a few financial matters and to gather up some of my things. I expect to get off in two days on my wheel [bicycle] and will go overland joining them in Pyeng Yang.

I also found a letter here from Mr. Whittemore under appointment to P.Y. and several letters from you. I have but time to write a few pages concerning the more important questions now before us.

1st - The appropriations for the Pyeng Yang work as finally approved by Board will doubtless be abundant. We asked for the larger sum because we had insufficient data upon which to estimate the probable cost. We are not planning for elaborate houses and by the purchase of good material in houses partially destroyed during the war we expect to be able to very soon equip the station with all needed buildings at far less expense than at one time seemed possible.

2nd - With regard to Dr. Wells and the request of the station that Miss Ribble be sent out this summer, I have read your letter to Dr. Wells - Dated Feb. 7 and also have yours to me of Feb. 10th. I appreciate your position and do not see how you or the Board could have taken any other position than you did at the time before the request of the station and the letters of Mr. Lee & myself had reached you. Dr. Wells was certainly a little too impatient and we refused to join in his request until we saw our way clear to do so.

While I now write urging the Board to send Miss Ribble, I want to state that the resolutions of the conference with reference to unmarried missionaries meets my hearty approval and in accordance with them I hope to see the right kind of men sent out as unmarried missionaries for pioneer work. In my opinion, however, the resolutions hold good only when certain qualifications are found in the men to whom they are to be applied. I have not time now to express myself fully on this question for it is one which needs handling with careful discrimination.

The rule has, I think, worked well in my case. It will not work well in Dr. Wells' case. Had you the personal knowledge of Dr. Wells which Mr. Lee & I have you would understand this perfectly, but this you have not. I feel convinced that Dr. Wells will be a better missionary, get the language better and quicker by marrying now than he will if

compelled to wait the three years as both he & the Board had expected.

Now as to the lack of a house in Pyeng Yang, which was the main point of your objection to sending her now. As long as Mrs. Lee was in Seoul, of course you could not but suppose that Mrs. Wells must have to reside there also. Mrs. Lee is now settled in P.Y. in a part of the house which is being altered for my eventual permanent quarters. The other part of this house will be altered immediately and be ready for occupation by July 1st. There will then be room enough for Mr. Lee & his family - for Dr. & Mrs. Wells and for Mr. Whittemore and myself. Of course, I do not mean that we shall not be in somewhat cramped quarters but we shall all be very comfortable and we have most heartily and joyfully planned thus, more than glad to get all the station on the grounds so that our promising work can receive the attention it needs. We shall not all need to remain in these quarters for many months as doubtless by Dec. 1st we shall have another residence finished, but even should we have to remain there a year or so, I am sure this arrangement will prove a highly satisfactory one. There is therefore no prospect that Miss Ribble will be compelled to live in Seoul. In fact, she will not see Seoul until she goes up to the Annual Meeting.

Another and a strong reason for her coming at once is that the work needs her. Mrs. Lee cannot possibly do all or half the work among the women which is now ready for someone. Just as soon as we can so plan it that we can accommodate one or two ladies we shall ask for them but we cannot ask that just now.

I sincerely hope the Board will see its way clear to grant this request. I did not join Dr. Wells in this until I felt convinced that it was the wisest thing to do nor until I saw the way clear for Miss Ribble to settle in Pyeng Yang without even a preliminary stop in Seoul.

3rd - Mrs. Bishop's letter and the Board's prompt response to our appeals for a new man have of course been a source of great pleasure to us. We rejoice too in the evidence of the work of the Holy Spirit and His blessing upon the work in Pyeng Yang, but we are especially desirous that no false impressions should be given by us and that the Board and the Church should receive no false impressions concerning the condition of things in the north. The first item in *Woman's Work for Woman* for March has caused me a little uneasiness. The statements made are perfectly true but I fear they may give the impression that there are "thousands" of Christians there and that the people are "clamoring for the gospel" (expressions which are often used).

I never want to give the impression that the heathen are crying out for the gospel - because they are not. "The carnal mind is enmity against God" and the heathen do not care for nor want the gospel. That there is a wide spread spirit of inquiry and that the Spirit of God is working upon the hearts of a large number is joyfully true and we are finding that "the gospel" is indeed "the power of God unto salvation" but many, many of these inquirers have no idea as to what the gospel is and when they know they reject it. The situation is one of great opportunity and great promise and our responsibility as a church is a great one, but how long this will last and how soon it may give way to a spirit of indifference or open opposition we cannot know. We do not wish to in any way arouse expectations which if not fulfilled will give way to disappointment. A few years ago I

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found fault with the false rumor which was circulated in the papers that there were "thousands of Christians" in the so called "Korean Valleys" of the extreme north of Korea and in Manchuria.

We do not wish to furnish the occasion for such rumors with reference to our work in and around Pyeng Yang. As yet we have but about 120 baptized Christians and some 400 Catechumens - some of the former lost sight of since the war, while some of the latter will prove insincere. While giving to the church every reason to rejoice with us in what the Lord is doing here may we avoid even the slightest exaggeration and also let the church know the difficulties and the disappointments which meet us in our work.

If you feel that the item in March W.W. for W. [*Woman's Work for Woman*] may give wrong impressions I should be glad to have you ask Miss Parsons to give place in the August number to an item which will prevent the arousing of undue expectations with reference to this work.

We are profoundly grateful for the blessing upon our work and are joyfully expectant of great things and we have so many evidences of the real working of the Spirit in the hearts of our men that we cannot resist the conviction that it is a genuine work of grace - but we know that in other fields men have been deceived and been bitterly disappointed. We pray most earnestly that we may be rightly guided.

We are hoping that the Board will arrange for the departure of Mr. Whittemore just as soon as possible. He ought to be in Pyeng Yang by Sept. 1st at latest. I shall write to him giving him certain information and urging his speedy departure.

There are a number of matters concerning which I should like to write but just now my time is too must limited.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Samuel A. Moffett

P.S. I wish very much you would send to Mr. Whittemore a copy of Nevius' "Methods of Mission Work" with the suggestion that he read it on the way out.

[This has been done  
Speer]

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea Correspondence, microfilm reel #179, Vol. 8, letter #73)

Seoul, Korea

June 4, 1896

Daniel L. Gifford

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:-

Your letter of April 13<sup>th</sup> has been recently received. I am glad if the news jottings I send you are of help to you. You remark, "It looks very much as if Russia had come to stay." There seems to be no doubt about it. The Russians have certainly shown themselves in their maneuvers in the East during the past two years to be past masters of the art of diplomacy. Putting a number of things together, one can see that Russian influence today is coming into Korea as subtly & irresistibly as the inflow of the tide. Let me mention a few things which will show how American & English influence are waning, while the influence of Russia is on the increase & which at the same time may serve to indicate how adroitly everything is worked. At the time the King went to the Russian Legation, the impression was carefully given out from that legation that there was utterly no political significance in the step: that the King had voluntarily sought an asylum there & would probably return soon to the palace when matters became more peaceful. Four months has passed; the country is quiet; and yet the King still remains at the Russian legation. The King, if not the country, are clearly under Russian protection.

The Korean Customs are no longer, since the war [Sino-Japanese War], under the Chinese Customs, with Sir Robert Hart, that prince of administrators, at its head: though it is to be remarked that Sir Robert Hart's appointees still hold their positions under the present regime. The Commissioner of Customs, Mr. J. McLeavey Brown, who may be mentioned, by the bye, as a close friend of Mr. Waeber, the Russian Minister, not only remains at the head of the Customs Service, but to his functions have been added the responsibilities of adviser to the Finance Dep't. of the government with the power of veto over governmental disbursements: & in his office, as second assistant, has been placed a capable young Russian. This may or may not have significance.

The King had hardly smoothed out his silk robes at the Russian legation when a school for the teaching of Russian & another for instruction in French, were established in Seoul and the English gov't. school teachers, Messrs. Hutchinson & Halifax had to surrender their school property & move to other quarters, which included buildings of about the same size, with grounds around them of relatively cramped proportions. Instructors, especially General Dye, had suffered for His Majesty in standing guard over his royal person from the time of the murder of the Queen during the period that the King was in the absolute power of his deadly enemies until the event of his escape to the Russian Legation - and there is no doubt that Gen. Dye risked & suffered much both morally & physically. You would expect that something handsome would be done for them. Let us compare their assignment of duty under the various regimes. Before the war, Gen. Dye superintended a school for cadets & drilled troops, while Col. Nienstead gave his entire time to like drilling of soldiers in the different barracks scattered about the city. After the Japanese took the palace, they were put in charge of the household troops, whose duty it was to guard the palace grounds; while the drill of the soldiers about the city passed into the hands of Japanese military men. Since the King came back to his own, what has been their assignment of duty? Col. Nienstead has been made pay master of the troops; & the old General has been detached entirely from all military service & given the position of Superintendent of His Majesty's farm: which is only a very polite way of putting these



gentlemen on the shelf.

A straw showing the Russian desire to cultivate the Koreans' good will was apparent a few nights since, on the occasion of the Czar's Coronation. Instead of inviting the entire foreign community to the legation, as has been the custom at similar public functions in Seoul, but a comparatively small number of foreigners, in company with a host of Korean officials were invited to be present.

Some papers in the East seem to think that Russia & Japan may combine for a joint protectorate of Korea. But I cannot believe it. The investigation of the murder of the Queen, since the King's removal to the Legation, which supplied the missing evidence that the court at Hiroshima was unable to secure (an account of which has been given out to the world through the Korean Repository, and has been printed in the Enmun [Korean script] and put on sale for the benefit of the Korean public) is a hard blow between the eyes of the Japanese. And I have further heard of late that all the Korean students in the Japanese civil & military schools have been recalled to this country. I am reminded of the small boy with the apple, who remarked to his juvenile friends, "There isn't going to be any core" - for Japan. In matters of local government the Korean officials are apparently allowed to act with rather a free hand. There is a little of reform attempted, with a good deal of a return to the old ante-bellum methods.

It is to be remarked in passing that the subtle & effective diplomacy of the Russians, rests upon a solid foundation, that of the fleet in the East & the army massed at Vladivostok just across the Korean border. As for the future, who can tell. The indications all point one way. I should like to write you somewhat of Mission affairs: but cannot write more for the present except to say that Miss Wambold has arrived in Seoul; & we, especially Miss Doty her colleague, are very pleasantly impressed with her.

Yours sincerely,

D.L. Gifford

P.S. Last year I had the "Korean Repository" sent to your address. But I have never learned whether or not you received it. Do you find the magazine at all helpful in giving you a better understanding of Korea & its institutions & the conditions under which we work? I have renewed the subscription for another year.

DLG

Pyeng Yang, Korea

June 29, 1896

Samuel A. Moffett

My Dear Mr. Haslup: [Robert LeRoy Haslup, Esq., 1725 McCulloh St., Baltimore, MD]

Your letter of April 3<sup>rd</sup> revealing an interest in our work on the part of your pastor and church was a welcome part of the last mail which arrived overland from Seoul a few days ago. I have to keep in mind the fact that tho first of all I receive my commission to preach the gospel from the Lord Himself, yet second only I am here as a commissioner from the churches bearing the gospel to these people who know not the truth of God's love in Christ Jesus. I have felt since on the field that the churches and their missionaries are not properly "in touch" the one with the other and the consequence is that but a very few of the people in the home land have an intelligent interest in what should be the one great work of the whole church. The commission to preach the gospel to every creature was no more given to me than to every other Christian, only it has become my privilege to be one of those sent by the Master and the Church to the regions beyond. What I am seeking to do in the Master's name is not my work alone but the churches'; and the individuals who have a part in the sending and who furnish the means have or at least according to Scripture should have just as deep an interest in the work as have we who are here on the field.

Your letter of inquiry shows that realizing this you are seeking to keep in touch with a part of the Lord's work in these Eastern lands. I trust what I may write will prove of interest to you and will help to strengthen your faith and cause you anew to realize that "the gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one who believeth."

Since you have asked several questions I shall first of all take them up in order, seeking to answer them rather by illustrations from the field than to give you categorical answers.

1. "Do you teach them their life is a sinful one and they need forgiveness"? Time and again have I asked Koreans to read the first chapter of Romans and have elicited from them the remark that this is a perfect picture of the state of mind and morals in Korea. The greatest of all sins is the rejection of God and the giving oneself up to the service of the devil and his evil spirits. These Koreans have given themselves so completely to the service of the devil that he has deprived them almost altogether of the knowledge even of the existence of God, and have come in thousands of cases to confound the creature with the Creator, looking upon the material heavens as providence. They are, however, not without that knowledge of God which Paul refers to in Romans 1:20 and in Acts 14:15-17 so that we always have that to which to appeal in seeking to lead them to listen to a message from God. Flowing from this one great sin, the rejection of God and the failure to worship Him, have come all the sins which it is possible for man to commit. I do not feel that it is possible to give the people of a Christian land an adequate description of the conditions of people physically, morally and spiritually who inhabit these heathen countries. They are not barbarians for they have the Eastern civilization; they are not all ignorant and poverty stricken but they are all living in absolute sin and misery, depraved, degraded, helpless, hopeless, given over to hatred and malice and evil speaking, to gross and sensual lives and to superstitions and fears which torment them day and night. Lying is universal and so ingrained as to forbid one putting reliance in the most ordinary

statements. No man can trust his neighbor and suspicion rests upon all alike, mutual distrust existing between father and son, brother and sister, husband and wife. The very worst confusion exists in all business matters - fraud, cheating, embezzlement and forgery and all kinds of deception are so shamelessly practiced that business men are simply enveloped in an atmosphere of deceit and rascality.

Immorality is rife beyond description and so unblushing in this city that even among so-called respectable people it is considered good fortune to have one's daughter enrolled as a dancing girl in the official's retinue, the life of shame to which this leads being disregarded for the sake of the gain derived and the influence with officials which some of these obtain. People for generations have grown up in the midst of such open immoralities and are so familiar with it that they have become utterly indifferent and hardened to a sense of its sinfulness. Drunkenness, gambling, quarreling, abusive and foul language, selfishness and inhumanity are brought to one's attention every day and in every place among all classes in such aggravated forms as to make one's heart sore as he thinks of the suffering and the misery to which the women and children are especially subjected.

There is no question as to the need of preaching repentance and the doctrine of forgiveness of sin. My chief topic in preaching is Jesus Christ the Savior from sin. I tell them time and again that the distinctive feature of Christianity is "forgiveness of sin", that we have not come here to teach them morality, to tell them not to lie, steal, commit adultery, murder, etc. because they have known long before we came that these things were wrong. We have not come simply to teach them what is right and what is wrong but we have come to tell them of the Love of God in Christ Jesus who offers to them salvation from sin into which they have already fallen and wherein they are lost, hopeless and helpless eternally. We lay stress upon the fact that there is but one God and that He has given us the only religion and that He alone has revealed the way of salvation; that all other systems are simply the production of man and can have no power to redeem from sin, however much of worldly wisdom and of moral truth there may be in them.

Never for a moment would I think of placing Christianity with other religions in one class for comparison. Other religions may be compared one with another but as God Himself is incomparable so is His truth incomparable. As there is but one God so there can be but one "Doctrine" given by God.

Christianity alone provides for salvation from sin and the change of heart without which no man can enter the Kingdom of God. Systems of worldly wisdom, of morality, of philosophy, however much of truth they may contain - if lacking in the one central supreme truth of Christianity cannot redeem men and hence fail in that which is the very essence and object of Christianity.

Again you ask, "Is it hard to convince them that their sins can be only forgiven through Jesus Christ and only in this way can they be saved?" They have been so long steeped in sin, in superstitions and false philosophy and in utter indifference to moral and spiritual truth that they exactly correspond to the scriptural description which says "they are dead" - yes dead to all that is spiritually good and unable to lay hold upon spiritual truth. There is lacking the spiritual perception and when one first talks to those who have

never heard the gospel he is pretty sure to meet with a blank stupidity and utter indifference to spiritual things.

It is, however, a beautiful sight to see the effect of the truth and to note how the plain presentation of the fundamental truths of sin and salvation, of God's love and of the death of Christ are used by the Spirit of God to quicken the spiritual conception. The Spirit of God does just what the Lord said He would do, viz; "He convinces of sin, of righteousness and of judgment". I do not find that argument is of much use in seeking to convince them of the truth of the message. I have learned more & more to put confidence in the power of the Word of God itself to bring men to a knowledge of sin, to repentance & faith. "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word". We do find, however, that that which was a stumbling block to the Jews which has always been and is now a difficulty in the churches of all lands is also a great difficulty here - viz; the tendency of the natural man to trust to work-righteousness. All the previously known doctrines of these people have taught this and it is only under the clearest teaching and the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit that they practically grasp the idea of salvation through faith. This brings me naturally to your 3<sup>rd</sup> question - "Are they able to grasp the power of faith, i.e. does the Holy Spirit give them the same light apparently that we have and cause them to walk as we know we should walk?"

I must answer the first part of this categorically and say yes while to the second part I must answer that I can point to no one of the Christians and say that through a complete yielding of himself to the Holy Spirit he is living a perfect life. The progress which many of them have made towards a holy life is very marked and the reformation in the lives of a large number of most wicked men has been such as to furnish indisputable evidence of the power of faith in Christ. Many of them have learned the power of prayer and take refuge therein in the presence of temptation, finding that the Lord furnishes the needed grace to come off conquerors. Sabbath observance has been a great test and it has been a real pleasure to see how they have been supplied with the courage and strength needed to faithfully observe this day. Merchants who when received as catechumens found it very difficult to close their shops and farmers who thought at first that it would be impossible to abstain from work on that day have now come to a joyful observance of the day and are learning more and more to appreciate its advantages for themselves and their families.

Your next question has been somewhat anticipated in the above. "Do you see any encouragement in your work, etc." I have been working in this province for the first six years, the first three of which were spent in only occasional visits - the last three with my headquarters here. The first years were spent in wide sowing of the seed and in personal hand to hand work with individual inquirers. The war came on us just as we had a small band of Christians who had proven their sincerity by bravely enduring very severe persecution. With this little band as a nucleus the work has been increasing so fast and the calls from all over the province for visits from us have been so frequent that we have far more than we can attend to. These two years have seen the establishment of 17 places where services are regularly held each Sabbath and have seen the Koreans provide 9 houses for worship, small and cheap tho they were. Since last November we have received into the churches by baptism 66 members nearly doubling our enrolled

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membership of last year which was 73. We have also received over 300 catechumens and from various towns and villages come requests which, if [it] were possible to follow them, would soon lead to the gathering of little groups of Christians for study and worship.

Yesterday at our service here in the city the church was crowded to overflowing and altho we have already twice enlarged it this year it will not contain the more than 400 people who assembled. The interest increases each month and we are simply unable to take advantage of all the opportunities presented, nor are we able to plan for all the work which ought to be done for the proper firm establishment of the church.

We have asked the Board to send us two more men at once. One is under appointment but we have no promise of another. If your church has not a pastor on the foreign field - how I wish that through this correspondence the Lord would call you to send one to this work in Pyeng Yang. Eight hundred dollars a year will support an unmarried man and he will find more work than ten men can do.

Your last question asks if the "Christians are more faithful than we are?" I believe the average is better and there is less lukewarmness coming I think from the fact that they realize more keenly than do many at home how much Christ has done for them. They are certainly much more active in making known the gospel wherever they go and seem especially to rejoice over their deliverance from the fear of evil spirits. However, the temptations which beset them are very great and coming so recently from the very midst of heathenism their moral ideas are not yet in accord with New Testament precepts. We hold before them the Highest Standard and seek to exercise very faithful discipline over them. Church discipline is far more frequent and severe than I have ever known it in home churches altho I do not see that there is any more occasion for it here than at home.

I may have written at too great length but I trust I have been guided by the Spirit of God in answer to your prayer. I read with interest your references in Ephesians. Read please Romans the first chapter, a picture of the heathen world, and then the tenth chapter for the Lord's appeal to the church in view of the heathens' need of the gospel.

May you be richly blessed in the Master's service and as you sit before your organ leading the praise of God's people may your own soul be filled with spiritual melody.

Sincerely yours in His service,

Samuel A. Moffett

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea Correspondence, microfilm reel #178, Vol. , letter # ?) [incorrectly listed in index as on reel #179]

Pyeng Yang, Korea

July 1, 1896 (Rec'd Aug. 17th)

Graham Lee

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

Since we reached Pyeng Yang I have been so busy in getting settled looking after building operations, etc., that I've had little time for letter writing. Our buildings have been progressing finely. Three rooms of Mr. Moffett's house are finished and Mr. Moffett and Dr. Wells have moved in and are very comfortable. The balance of the house will soon be finished. My house is well on toward completion and will all be finished before Aug. 1st. The ground for my house was broken on May 14th so I think we have made very good time.

The plan has been changed and is smaller than the one I sent you - one room less. The change in the plan has been approved by the Property Com. I enclose a copy of the new plan.

Mr. Moffett returned from his trip to Shanghai much benefitted but he is not well and must be very careful. He wants to remain here until after the Annual Meeting and I hope he may be able to do so for until these buildings are done I have little time for doing anything but oversee carpenters. When the buildings are done and I have time for other things then we will be better able to spare Moffett. Today we broke ground for the Hospital and if we can get the lumber we want it will not be many days till part of that is ready for occupancy. We are pushing these buildings just as fast as possible so as to get them off our hands.

Our work keeps up its usual steady growth. Nearly every Sunday we receive catechumens and generally the room is packed. We have just finished enlarging the church and now the enlarged building bids fair to be too small. We have now a room in which women can gather at the church and well they are availing themselves of the privilege. Last Sunday there were between 75 and 100 present. Of course some came to get a sight of the new foreign lady but most of them seem to come because they are really interested and want to learn more. Mrs. Lee has started a small class of girls which she meets every Sunday. This will doubtless grow into a lay school for girls before long. We have no regular work for women started yet, first because we have no room where Mrs. Lee can meet them (see note) - and second, I don't want her to begin very much until the hot weather is over. Just as soon as a room or two in the hospital is done Dr. Wells will move out of the building he now uses for a dispensary and this then will be used by Mrs. Lee for Woman's Work. We hope that before Aug. 1st this building will be vacated. We are all very well notwithstanding the hot weather and rain. Our house is in a very healthy spot and most beautifully located. We are on historic ground too for our house stands within the lines of a Chinese entrenchment. Almost all signs of the battle are gone. Occasionally we run across a shell or thigh bone or something like that but not often. The other day in taking a walk I noticed in the fields certain places - spots where the grain was growing very rank and strong so much so that these spots were very noticeable. The only way I could account for this was that each one of these spots marked the place where some poor Chinaman met his fate.

Mr. Moffett and I are both much disappointed that the Board seems to be

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determined not to send Miss Ribble out to Dr. Wells. We have both tried to put the case as strongly as we could and neither of us can see the least particle of a shadow of a reason why the lady should not come, and on the other hand there are very great reasons why she should. Have you any confidence in our judgment? Why should we urge thus strongly if we didn't think the case one of great importance! Are we not in position to know about this individual case and is not our opinion of some weight? We have the interest of the work at heart as much as the Board or Secretaries and we would not urge anything unless we thought it for the best. Let not injustice be done that a theory may be supported which may hold in some cases but which in this breaks down in every particular.

We are rejoiced to hear of the appointment of Mr. Whittemore and stand ready to give him a warm welcome when he comes. He will find fields perfectly white awaiting him and a people whom work among is a joy.

Please do not forget that we asked for two men this year instead of one and that we intend to keep on asking until the Board sends us that other man. We have surely shown that there is work enough here for him to do. And when the work calls for more men as it is doing in this province, the church can not afford to ignore the call.

Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Webb are very well and happy in our new home. The ladies have so much to occupy their attention that they haven't time to miss the absence of other foreign ladies.

Little Mylo keeps very well and is a great joy and comfort to his parents.

All wish to be kindly remembered to you.

Sincerely yours,

Graham Lee

Pyeng Yang, Korea

July 20, 1896 [Rec'd Aug. 17, 1896]

Samuel A. Moffett

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

The last three months have worked a very great change for us here and I cannot tell you how grateful I feel that everything has worked out so well for the interests of our work and the establishment of our station here. So far as the city is concerned we are now past the frontier stage and have settled down to steady growth and the development of the Christian Church. The alterations on the property in the city have given us a good large church building capable of holding a congregation of about 300, one wing occupied by men and one by women. Every Sunday this building is filled to overflowing and the interest does not abate but seems to be constantly increasing. The attendance at the Wednesday evening prayer meeting is over 150 and that at the two meetings for Bible Study on Sunday morning is about the same.

The Church has been growing constantly both in members in knowledge and in its interest in the work. This month they begin furnishing \$2.00 a month on the salary of an itinerating Evangelist Colporteur who will look after a circuit of country churches a little to the north of here. In connection with the church we have also a boys day school partially supported by the church (about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the expense being borne by us).

On our property just outside the city wall a work of transformation has been going on and we are more than delighted with the progress made. Mr. Lee's house has been completed and is almost ready for occupancy and that too without exhausting the amount appropriated by the Board. My house has 3 rooms completed and occupied by Dr. Wells & myself while the rest of the house will be completed in two weeks. This too will be done without exhausting the Board's appropriation. In addition to this, a building in connection with my house was altered so as to make a temporary residence for the Lees while their house has been building and it is now ready for Mr. Whittemore whenever he shall arrive.

These three buildings enable us to settle ourselves for work and also to provide quarters for Mr. Whittemore, Mrs. Wells and another missionary or two just as soon as the Board will send them.

We are still hoping that each mail will bring us news of the Board's action sending Miss Ribble out to Dr. Wells. I have been surprised that my letter jokingly referring to "climbing a tree" gave you the impression that I was "generously allowing myself to be inconvenienced" for the sake of getting Miss Ribble out here. I thought I then wrote pretty plainly that we would have plenty of room for her and that I spoke of "climbing a tree" in case you immediately sent out the two ministers we were asking for and their wives. However, let me now assure you that we have one house more (Mr. Lee's) than we were then counting upon and that Miss Ribble's presence will add much to our convenience and comfort.

Dr. & Mrs. Wells can occupy part of my house while I remain and all of it while I am in America. On this mail I have started a circular requesting the approval of the Mission to my return home this fall or winter. When this request reaches the Board will you kindly see to it that action is taken and that I be informed of that action as soon after as possible.



7/20/96 – p.2 S.A.M.

Now that the station is established here I can leave without serious disturbance to our work. I have overtaxed my strength and without a long rest and time for permanent recuperation I can do but half work. I believe that the interest of the work will be best served by my return now and so ask for that permission.

I had hoped to stay until the Building of the Hospital is finished but with one of the buildings completed Dr. Wells can carry on his work very nicely and the other buildings can go up during my absence or after my return.

We broke ground for the first building about July 1st and will have it finished by 1st of Sept.

Our greatest need in our work now is for men to itinerate and for a couple of single lady missionaries to carry on a more extensive work amongst the women. Should I go home this fall, I hope to see you in New York and lay more clearly before you the condition and the needs of our work here.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Samuel A. Moffett

Pyeng Yang, Korea

Sept. 22, 1896

Samuel Austin Moffett

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

Wanting to keep you posted by sending a letter at least once in two months and altho you will soon have before you the detailed reports which we shall present next month to the Annual Meeting, I feel like sending you a few lines telling of our present rejoicing over the work and its prospects. So great has been the advance made this year that we have had to enlarge the Church four times - the last addition having been made ready for last Sunday's service. We can now seat a congregation of 500 and from present appearances we shall soon be over-crowded. Two weeks ago at the Communion service we baptized 28 men and women and Mr. Lee returned last night from a trip to the work in the south-west where he baptized 36 more and added some 70 or 80 to the roll of Catechumens.

I leave this week for a visit to the country stations west and north and then we shall all go up to the Annual Meeting. We shall certainly present a very strong plea for more helpers especially for two lady missionaries and one more minister. With an increase of 200 per cent in membership and Catechumens - with opportunities on every hand to enlarge our work I do not see how the Church can refuse to send re-enforcements if it is at all possible to raise the funds.

I have been able to keep at work since my return from the rest in China and am feeling pretty well now. However, I believe it best for me to go home this winter that I may be here the following year. I am hoping that the Board's permission to leave on furlough will reach me so that I can leave in November, reaching home in time for Christmas.

We are just closing up all the building operations we shall undertake this year. The two buildings for the Hospital are nearly finished and we shall have the best and most convenient hospital building in the Mission. Dr. Wells is enthusiastic and zealous in his work and we look for great success along medical lines. We do so need lady missionaries who can give all their time to work among the women and I earnestly plead with you to send us two before the 1st of May.

I shall hope to be in New York soon after reaching home and I feel sure that our request will be answered when you get clearly before you the opportunities which this field presents. We want ladies of good physical endurance and courage who can visit among the villages all around this vicinity in which we have Catechumens whose families can be reached by the ladies.

If you have any applicants now before you can you not keep them in readiness to answer the request which will reach you officially as soon as the Reports and actions of our Annual Meeting are before you?

Word from Mr. Whittemore announces that he will arrive in Seoul just in time for the Annual Meeting. I wish there were three instead of one.

With kindest regards and trusting that I shall before many months have the pleasure of a personal meeting and converse with you.

Very sincerely yours in Christ,

Samuel A. Moffett

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea Correspondence, microfilm reel #179, Vol. 8, letter #76)

Seoul, Korea

September 28, 1896

Henry G. Appenzeller

Dear Brother Moore,

Your anticipated departure from Korea is a loss, not only to your Mission, but to Christian work as a whole. I have on a few occasions, as you may remember, taken the liberty to suggest to you that you ought to keep yourself free to move at large among the people. You early entered into street work selling books and talking to the people and as far as I know you have made a fine impression. More than once have I come across your tracks when Koreans told me that the "great man from Kon Dang Kohl" had been there. This work among the common people has given you a good hold on the language. It cannot be other than a great satisfaction to you to look back to the direct results in your work God has permitted you to see.

I never had the pleasure of hearing you in a connected discourse until a week ago yesterday when you preached to the crowd in the street from our bookstore window. I think a man who can hold a promiscuous crowd as you did shows that he knows what [is] the common need to hear and also knows how to say it in their own language. You surely have a good command of the language of this people and it is a great loss to us that you are compelled to leave us, even though it is only for a time. When you come back, may you be a flaming herald, and preach the glorious gospel in the towns and villages along the rivers as you had planned and for which you were ready.

You are too busy now but I wish you would, on your journey home, write me a full account of your work among the butchers. How it began, how it spread, what was done, and its present status. I want to have a detailed account of the little boy's conversion: his name, age, etc., etc. Of course you understand I want it for *The Repository*. It would come in beautifully for the October number but that is perhaps more than I have a right to expect. But be sure to let me have it before it is published elsewhere. We on the field have the first claim.

I am glad to hear Mrs. Moore is improving and I hope she will continue to do so. May you have a prosperous journey and voyage home and may God's blessing rest richly upon yours and you.

Believe me,

Yours in the Work,

H.G. Appenzeller

Seoul, Korea

October 5, 1896

Daniel L. Gifford

Dear Dr. Ellinwood, -

Yesterday (Sunday) was both a happy and a sad day for me. It was happy because we dedicated our new church at Yŭn Mät Kōl. Since we have been over here my wife and I have held separate meetings for the men and women. The quarters for the men were getting to be small and we felt too that in order to have a proper church life developed we must have Sunday services attended by both men and women. I wrote you that Mr. Hong and I took a trip in the summer to Pyeng Yang in order to study their methods of work. A number of those methods we had put into practice, with the result of awakening some little enthusiasm among the men. When the plan was broached to the men and women of transforming the interior of the former [Graham] Lee House over the hill from our house, and the school into a church, they rose to the scheme with the avidity of speckled trout. Station sanction was obtained, a Committee appointed, and they went to work with might and mané, contributing money for the materials and doing, themselves, the manual labor involved. And in a few days the task was accomplished.

Yesterday we had the dedicatory services. As I sat there during the singing, listening to the volume of sound, my heart welled with gratitude to God for the promise of the work. But again it was saddened by the thought that I must soon leave this newly born church to return to America. My present expectation is that I must leave Korea at the close of the Annual Meeting. The arrangement made at the last Annual Meeting was that we should wait six months beyond our time until the return of Miss Doty in the late Spring of next year. That plan, I regret to say, will now have to be modified by only one of us, Mrs. Gifford remaining on the field the specified time and myself returning this fall. I have been medically advised this past week by Dr's Avison and Vinton to not try to wait any longer. My nervous system after my eight years of service, is so run down that I need a protracted rest, they tell me, such as I cannot get upon the field. I have for some months felt my nervous strength giving way, but have been hoping against hope. My summer vacation failed to do me the good I thought it would and I have not felt strong enough to visit my country work this fall. If I work with great moderation and constantly take medicine, I get along. But let a stress of work with hard problems come upon me, which I cannot avoid from time to time, and I am thrown into a spell of diarrhea, showing plainly that I am in need of rest.

My furlough is due this late fall, though technically I shall need to leave a month or six weeks before the time. Should I wait until the 15<sup>th</sup> of December, the anniversary of my arrival, I fear in my present state of health, the exposure of such a long mid-winter journey.

To avoid any complications I enclose the written medical certificate of Dr. Avison, advising my speedy return. Dr. Vinton has given verbally similar advice. I shall also refer my case to the Annual Meeting of the Mission. But there is no reason to believe that they will withhold their sanction.

My address while home will be Mendota, Illinois, the home of my parents, where in accordance with the medical advice above mentioned, it will seem best for me to spend a number of months of quiet rest. I presume Mr. Moffett and I will come home together, as his health has become impaired by the pioneer work he has done. With Kindest regards,

Yours Sincerely,  
D.L. Gifford

P.S. Perhaps I ought to add as another symptom of my case that during the past two or three weeks I have developed a growing tendency to insomnia.

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea  
Correspondence, microfilm reel #178, Vol. 6, letter #47)

Pyongyang, Korea

October, 1896

Samuel A. Moffett

To the Editor of "The Korean Repository"

Dear Sir: -

The editorial on "Polygamists in the Church" in the September *Repository* is calculated to give a very erroneous impression as to the position of the Presbyterian Church on the subject of Polygamy. Will you kindly give space to the following statements?

(1) The Presbyterian Church does and always has taken the position that Polygamists cannot be admitted to the church.

(2) The General Assembly had before it this year a request from the Synod of India asking that decision in these cases be left to the synod, but the General Assembly simply re-affirmed the position of the Church.

(3) The Presbyterian Council in Korea cannot change the fundamental law of the Church and has never been ignorant of the fact.

The Council also knows full well that the question before it is not, "Can a man continuing in the polygamous relationship be admitted to the Church?" but is, "What shall be done in the case of a man who has been a polygamist or who has concubines when he applies for admission to the Church?"

Samuel A. Moffett

Pyeng Yang Station General Report

This year we of the Pyeng Yang station have had great cause to be thankful to God for the way he has led us. Heretofore although a separate station, we have never really felt settled in Pyeng Yang but this year marks a change and we feel now that Pyeng Yang has been settled for good.

After the Annual Meeting of last year Mr. Moffett, Dr. Wells and I returned to Pyeng Yang for the winter. The first work undertaken was our Training Class which claimed our attention during the month of December. While the class was in session we had the great pleasure of a visit from Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop who attended some of the sessions of the class and seemed much impressed by what she saw. For details of this work see Mr. Moffett's report on "Training Class". Also during this time the first enlargement was made in our church building. It had been only two kan in size but now one and one-half kan were added. The Christmas holidays I spent in Seoul while Mr. Moffett and Dr. Wells remained in Pyeng Yang. After my return repairs were begun on a small building to be used by my family in the spring. This building belongs to Mr. Moffett and was repaired at his private expense. While the repairs were going on Mr. Moffett and Dr. Wells made a trip down into Whang Hai province to visit our substations there. Properly this trip should have been taken by me as the Whang Hai work has been put in my charge, but as I had to oversee the building operation, Mr. Moffett and Dr. Wells kindly agreed to go. For details of this trip see report of work in Whang Hai. After the return from this trip it was deemed best by both Dr. Wells and myself that Mr. Moffett take a short vacation. Accordingly, about the last of February he left for Shanghai and I accompanied him as far as Seoul. It was during this time between Christmas and March 1<sup>st</sup> that the second enlargement was made in our church building. Another kan was added to meet the growing demands. Mr. Moffett sailed for Shanghai and I returned to Pyeng Yang after a short visit with my family. Dr. Wells held the fort alone during our absence.

After my return in the spring, the house which was begun during the winter was finished ready for occupation. As soon as this was done Dr. Wells and I left for Seoul to bring up my family and household goods. The move was made successfully and on May 3<sup>rd</sup> we reached Pyeng Yang bag and baggage. On the way we met Mr. Moffett in Chemulpo returning from Shanghai. As he had to go to Seoul he reached Pyeng Yang a few days after we did.

Just as soon as we were settled building operations were begun and were kept up steadily all summer and fall until we left for the Annual Meeting. We were able to accomplish the following: residence for Mr. Moffett; residence for Mr. Lee; three buildings for the hospital - - two built new and one old building repaired; building for Woman's Work - an old building repaired; building for the Sa Lim Hak Tang, the boys' school outside the city; (this was also an old building repaired) Besides the above, we made during this time the third addition to our church building. Eight and one-half kan more were added, giving us, besides enlarging the men's [meeting] room, a room in which women could meet. Almost the first Sunday after the enlarged building was opened for service it was filled full. I wish to say a word about our building operations. We let no contracts but every stroke of work was done by day work. By this method we saved an immense amount of time and feel sure we also saved money. And what is more, we had the satisfaction of getting the work well done without having to have a periodical fight over what sticks should be used and what shouldn't.

We were fortunate in the fact that our head carpenters were Christians as also were many of the men under them and their work has shown that they had an interest at heart and that they tried to do faithful honest work.

This year no one has been able to visit Eui Ju and the north but despite this fact, the work has been growing steadily and is ready to yield a rich harvest as soon as it can be properly cared for. For details of this work see Mr. Moffett's report on work in the North. Whang Hai Do has been visited twice this year, once in February by Mr. Moffett and Dr. Wells and once in September by myself. Mr. Lee's report on work in Whang Hai will give the details of this. The work in the neighborhood of Pyeng Yang has shown steady solid growth. Mr. Moffett's report will tell of this.

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At Pyeng Yang we have two day schools for boys, one inside the city at the church property in charge of Mr. Moffett, and one outside the city near our compound which is in my charge. Mr. Moffett will report on the school at the church. I have been able to give very little time to the school in my charge this year, but notwithstanding the lack of oversight, the boys are making good progress. What pleases us most is the fact that the boys are becoming earnest Christian workers. For some time now two of the oldest have taken it upon themselves to visit all the schools in the city and preach the gospel to the boys attending. The idea emanated from the boys themselves and they have been carrying it out in their own way. This school is partially self-supporting. During the past year, for the support, the church members gave about five yen. The scholars gave about thirteen yen and the Board paid the balance - about three yen and fifty per member. This fall with some money given me by a Sunday School in Chicago I have altered a building which for the present will make excellent quarters for the school. The building is large enough so that we can also use it for Sunday School on Sunday morning. We have been having Sunday School at our sarang on the compound but as this is only two kan in size and as our attendance has been in the neighborhood of 100, the people have had to sit on the ground in front as well as inside the building. It was very inconvenient but now since the new school is finished we can meet in some comfort. For a time now boys, women and girls all met together. We didn't invite the women to come but they wouldn't stay away. But now, since Mrs. Lee has her woman's building done, the women and girls meet there for Sunday School on Sunday morning.

During the summer our church again grew too small so in September we added eight kan more, making this year four enlargements. The building has grown from two kan to twenty-two in one year. The work is the Lord's and wonderful in our eyes. Our building now will hold when packed, about 500 people. On Sunday afternoon it is comfortably filled.

The medical work has grown from nothing to more than Dr. Wells could attend to with his limited facilities. The Koreans certainly believe in him as a doctor and his fame has gone far and wide. A new hospital has just been completed - the gift of Mr. Moffett's mother and brother - and from now on Dr. Wells will be able to do his work in comfort.

I must not stop without mentioning the celebration on the King's birthday. We are trying to train our Christians to be patriotic and the idea has taken root. On this day a grand picnic and celebration was held. In the morning about 300 men and boys gathered at the church and with flags flying marched to the river where they took boats to the picnic ground just above the city. Here everybody had a good time until the return in the afternoon. Speeches were made and the inner man was made happy by the supply of good things prepared. In the evening after prayer meeting there was a celebration with a display of fireworks. The sarang at the church was beautifully illuminated with lanterns and a large transparency was erected on a high pole in the center of the compound. There were plenty of fire crackers, rockets that wouldn't go up and other fireworks of various kinds. It was a grand success and if the people didn't feel patriotic they certainly acted like it. The whole affair was originated and engineered by the church members.

The statistics for the year are as follows: There are 22 places where people meet every Sabbath for worship. In these places we have 207 baptized members, 19 of whom are women. Last year we reported 21 baptisms. This year we report 137. Last year we received 180 catechumens, this year we have received 487. At present our whole number of catechumens is 503 of whom 81 are women.

Respectfully submitted,

Graham Lee

(from microfilm reel #180, Vol. eleven, 1896 reports, Presbyterian Historical Society records)

Evangelistic Work in Eui Ju and the North

This field for nearly three years without a visit from the missionary very naturally presents some disappointing features. Nevertheless much has been accomplished and it sends forth a very loud call for a missionary who can devote all his time to the work in this Northern region.

Our evangelist, Yang Chen Paik, has been faithfully at work and his urgent pleas for one of us to visit that work have been resisted only because of the utter impossibility of neglecting even more urgent calls nearer at hand. Mr. Yang gives one Sunday each every month to the church at Eui Ju, one to the church at Kou Syeng, one to the sub-station at Sak Ju and one to Sun Chen, where we have one catechumen and several who are interested. He also regularly visits a large market town, Yang Chang, and between all these places covers a large territory dotted with villages from many of which, as a result of his work, a good many inquirers are coming. He has come to Pyeng Yang three times during the year, rendering a detailed satisfactory account of his travels.

In Eui Ju there has been no material change since last year, the condition of things having been far from satisfactory owing to the fact that there has been no one of sufficient ability, energy and spiritual power to inspire much confidence as a leader. As reported last year the enrolled membership had largely been lost sight of even before the war, but since then there has been only a small nucleus around which a few more inquirers have gathered. This hopeful nucleus consists of 5 baptized members, 5 enrolled catechumens and 2 women and 2 men not yet publicly enrolled, though they have been under instruction for several years. This is a total of 14. An effort is now being made by Mr. Yang and the Leader who is in charge of the property to establish a day school. The Sunday services are being held under their direction and are becoming a greater means of strengthening the work since the allaying of what threatened to be a serious factional quarrel arising from jealousy on the part of our former helper and his immediate friends.

In Kou Syeng at Sai Chang the little group holds its own and is a witness bearer to the whole region. During the year they have met the expenses of the church by means of weekly contributions and have contributed timbers and work with a small sum towards repairing the church. For this latter purpose they received a little help from us. They have 7 baptized men and 5 catechumens enrolled, one of the latter received this year at Pyeng Yang. Besides these, there are several not yet enrolled who have been under instruction for several years and a visit to them will doubtless find 4 men and 2 women ready for baptism.

The sub-station at Sak Ju presents a most promising state of things. Here the 20 men and the 20 women who meet separately every Sunday and every Wednesday have proven the sincerity of their faith by their courage and persistence in the face of most trying persecution and threatenings of extreme measures. During one of the visits of Mr. Yang he was threatened with death and the women's meeting was broken up by several drunken yamen runners who broke in the doors, reviled the women with the most abusive language and carried off all the books, threatening to kill all who were there. Under this provocation the action of the women showed a remarkable insight into spiritual truth. The men were so enraged over the occurrence that they were at once ready to carry the case to the official and thence to a higher court in order to have these rioters punished but the women said "No! Let us endure it. Did not Jesus endure much more reviling and did he not suffer even to death for us?" After much prayer they all decided to bear it all in silence.

These people are subject to the scorn and hatred of the officials and their servants, yet meet regularly in the face of the threat of these underlings to kill the men and to enslave the women in the lowest of all positions, making them slaves in the magistracy. Their meeting place is not far from the official residence and from fear of such a raid being made upon them the women have discontinued the singing, as the sound is known to arouse the anger and the threats of those in the magistracy. Probably the only thing that has stood between them and the execution of these threats has been the influence of Paik, the Doctor, who since his work during the cholera epidemic last year



has been able to plead with the officials and thus to moderate their anger. These men and women are bearing witness not only to the inhabitants of the city proper but from them the news is going forth to many villages, in one of which, Yung Cheng Tong Soh, four men form a little group which meets every Sunday for worship.

That you may know all that bears upon this northern field I should also make mention of two other things. This spring I again received a letter from Rev. James W. Inglis of the Scotch U.P. Mission in Manchuria, telling of the reports of their colporteurs in the region beyond Kang Kyei. Here, report says, there are many inquirers and some sincere believers. The other fact is that the American Trading Company has begun the development of the gold mines near Oun San where they have a number of Americans and many Koreans employed, for whom they are anxious to secure the services of a physician. They spoke to us in Pyeng Yang as to the probability of our Board sending a physician there provided they would furnish a hospital and a large part of his salary. While Oun San is not the best location for the opening of another station, yet we ought to have a station in the north and possibly the location of a station at Pak Chen, by bicycle only half a day's journey from the mines and the center of a very thickly settled region, might enable us to provide for our work in and around Eui Ju, and the work of the Manchurian missionaries beyond Kang Kyei and at the same time meet the medical needs of the American miners. Certainly this northern section ought to be supplied. The church cannot afford to pass by unheeded the call of these people with some 20 or 30 already prepared for baptism and enrolled and unenrolled catechumens to the number of 70 or 80.

#### Statistics

Churches & sub-stations	Members	catechumens enrolled this year	Present number catechumens	Contributions
Eui Ju	34	1	11	300 cash
Kou Syeng Sai Chang	7	1	5	928 "
Sak Ju		2	2	2430 "

[Report by Samuel A. Moffett]

Evangelistic Work in Pyeng Yang and Vicinity

The very hopeful and promising state of things reported last year has continued and with the application of the principles then outlined the work has developed most satisfactorily. There has been but little in the way of disappointment, almost everything giving us reason for greater and greater rejoicing. The year has witnessed a remarkable growth in membership, in activity, in organization and in progress towards self-support, self-reliance, self-propagation and above all, in the development of strong Christian characters. The following report in detail will make this manifest.

The Pyeng Yang East Gate Church

This church has grown from an enrollment of 20 members and 82 catechumens to one of 74 members and 195 catechumens (30 of the latter being women); from a congregation of 100 men to one of nearly 500 men and women, and a very gratifying attendance of about 150 at the mid-week prayer meeting for men.

Almost every Sunday has seen the public enrollment of from 1 to 15 catechumens while at the Communion services held quarterly there has been added by baptism 44 men and 10 women. The catechumens became so numerous that we were puzzled as to how to provide for their proper oversight and instruction. This was then made the special duty of the two Leaders of the church, Saturday evening being set apart as catechumen evening at which time these leaders and a few of the best instructed Christians, meet the new at the church and at the residence Sarang, conducting them through a study of the manual for catechumens and an informal discussion of any questions which may be presented.

The church has also been greatly helped and strengthened by the semi-monthly meeting of the officers (Helper, two Leaders and two Deacons) with Mr. Lee and myself, these meetings discussing all plans for the further extension of and the more effective instruction, discipline, organization and development of the church. We are thus training the officers and at the same time are enabled to put upon them a great deal of work and responsibility to our mutual advantage.

The plan for Sabbath services suggested last year has been carried out and proven a success. The morning sees the gathering of three Sunday School (Bible Classes), one at the church for men under the direction of myself and Leader Kim, another for men at the residence school under the direction of Mr. Lee and Leader Yi, the third being for women at the women's building under the direction of Mrs. Lee, assisted by several teachers in turn. In the afternoon all unite in the church service. This service is the culmination of the varying agencies at work throughout the week and is constantly gaining in power and impressiveness. To it the people gather from all the surrounding country, some coming regularly a distance of 10, 20 and even 50 li [3.3 miles to 16.6 miles]. There are two specially gratifying phases of the work this year, one the result of Mrs. Lee's presence in the station, one the result of insistence upon a strict observance of the Sabbath.

Mrs. Lee's arrival enabled us to arrange for the assembling of the women and we soon realized that the Christians had been giving effective instruction in their homes. The wives and mothers and daughters of the men soon filled the space allotted to them and have within the last few weeks almost filled the large eight kan building which has just been added to the church for their use. The congregation of women numbers over 100, the great majority of whom are now regular attendants - not sight see-ers. No mid-week prayer meeting is held for women at the church, Mrs. Lee having her hands more than full attending to meetings near our residence. Our most imperative need is for someone to give undivided time to work among the women at the church, in the homes in the city and in the surrounding villages.

Sabbath observance has been quite a test question and baptism in many cases was deferred pending satisfaction in this respect. It is certainly a new sight in Pyeng Yang to see a dozen or more

establishments closed on the Lord's Day. One especially interesting case arose. Deacon We had a paper store which he closed on Sunday. The capitalist who furnished his stock stood it for awhile but when market day came upon Sunday and the store was closed as usual, the capitalist thought things had gone too far - so he threatened to withdraw the capital unless the store was opened every day. This threat stood over Deacon We for some time but he did not waver. Finally the capitalist said "I see you have fully determined to close the store on Sundays - so I shall withdraw your capital." The young man remained true - gave up his capital, his store, his living and cast around for someone who would furnish him capital and allow him to obey God. Who his present capitalist is I have never heard but in a few days he was reestablished in a larger store with a larger stock and is also a stronger man and a greater power in the church because of his firm adherence to principle.

The church is doing aggressive evangelistic work - furnishing \$2<sup>00</sup> per month towards the salary of the evangelist on Soon An circuit and by personal work extending knowledge of the gospel to the villages around. At a recent meeting of the officers, plans were set on foot for a systematic visitation of all the villages within 15 miles of the city, in 20 of which we have from 1 to 3 members or catechumens. The officers and a few of the more capable members will go two by two into these villages encouraging these scattered believers who have to stand alone against persecution and ridicule, and also making known more clearly to others in these villages what the doctrine is which these men profess. We look for great good from this movement. The church has adopted the envelope system of offerings, the result being a marked increase in the receipts. There are enrolled between 70 and 80 regular contributors, the weekly offering amounting to between three and four dollars. They have raised this year 59,913 cash or about \$120 besides over #20<sup>00</sup> raised from fees in the two boys' schools. They have thus not only met the running expenses of the church and sarang [room for receiving visitors] amounting to over #60<sup>00</sup> but have contributed \$30<sup>00</sup> towards the building of churches in seven of the country sub-stations, and furnished nearly half of the support of the two schools and begun the partial support of an evangelist. Raising this year a total of over \$140<sup>00</sup> the church gives promise of very soon becoming a practically self-supporting church.

In this report I do not deal with the details of the active work of the men and women in their meetings held near our residences under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Lee or in connection with the medical work of Dr. Wells.

Before leaving the Pyeng Yang work I should mention the bookstore, which has become another influential factor in the religious life of the city. Established this year on the main street, it is the center from which a great deal of evangelistic work is done, large quantities of books going forth from it, while hundreds of inquirers learn there from a most zealous Christian the truths of salvation. The building purchased is sufficiently large for the bookstore and also for a street chapel. It is the intention to open the chapel just as soon as time can be found to give it the needed oversight to make it an effective agent in our work. In connection with our bookstore we want this year to place in the field a colporteur whose support is guaranteed by the British and Foreign Bible Society.

Connected with the Pyeng Yang church are 13 sub-stations whose condition and prospects are as follows:

Han Chun Tai Kol:

[This sub-station was] reported last year as having been just established with 5 catechumens. I visited this place last November. In December two of the men attended the Training Class. It received helpful stimulus and instruction from a visit from Helper Han in the spring. Dr. Wells and I visited it in June. Leader Kim of the Pyeng Yang church visited it in August and I made my final visit in September. There are now 5 baptized members and 42 catechumens, 9 of whom are women. On my last trip I should have baptized ten or more of these catechumens had it not been for their failure to properly observe the Sabbath during the busy harvest season. Their examination and their daily Christian conduct was satisfactory in all other respects. During the year

these people have secured a church building and under their Leader, Mr. Song, have been making steady progress. One most interesting case of conversion deserves mention. A friend of Mr. Song, a blind sorcerer named An, learned the truth and after daily conversation with his friend became convicted of sin. He gave up his sorceries and took refuge in Jesus. His mother and step father were thoroughly enraged and roundly abused him and Mr. Song, saying they had been deprived of their means of livelihood and that their son had thrown away all that had been expended in educating him as a sorcerer. The poor fellow meekly endured the taunts and threats and revilings of his father and the tears and entreaties of his mother - but said he could not give up his new found hope and joy in Jesus. We were beset by his friends to furnish him with some means of livelihood but refused. He was driven from his home and disowned. For some time he was given a home and cared for by Mr. Song. Every effort was made by his relatives to induce him to return to sorcery and the temptation was presented to him time and again. He seemed never to think of yielding but brought his drum and bell and other fortune-telling spirit-expelling charms to me. He soon became a most interesting speaker on the truth of the gospel and was himself an evidence of their power. We invited him to stay in the sarang for a while that he might be more thoroughly instructed. He was soon talking daily to the patients at the dispensary and began selling books there. Mrs. Lee taught him to play the organ and he spent a good deal of time talking to the visiting women. He was constantly praying for his mother and step-father and when he returned to his home to plead with them he found a very great change, his mother especially giving evidence of a real change of heart. It was touching indeed to see his great joy as he told us of this. He had made himself so useful to Mrs. Lee in her work that we have planned to keep him with us that his implicit faith and great happiness may exert their power over the many to whom he tells the story of the way in which he, the blind yet sees spiritual things. His influence in his own neighborhood has been very great and the people of this little church have great confidence in him. This sub-station has some of its catechumens in a large market town, Han Chun Chang, three miles away. Here they have just perfected their plans for the establishment of a separate place of worship, having purchased a good house which they will adapt by alteration to church purposes. This market town is composed very largely of liquor sellers, gamblers and men wholly given over to gain and it may be that a substation here will always be a small one, nevertheless, it will be a center of information to the large section of country villages which has this market town as its center of trade. These two groups have raised this year for running expenses of the church and for the two church buildings the sum of 17,737 cash - equal to over \$35<sup>00</sup>.

#### Syon An Kang Chin:

[This sub-station] in Whang Hai province 100 li [33.3 miles] southeast of Pyeng Yang - reported last year - has not been visited by me, owing to its isolation and the press of other work. It has had regular monthly visits from Helper Han and has had an efficient leader, a Mr. Cho, who attended the Training Class. A number from here have visited Pyeng Yang and been enrolled as catechumens, while some have moved into the city. They have held regular services and from their offerings met all the expenses of the church. With help from the Pyeng Yang church they purchased a building for church services. Several of them are ready for baptism and a number wish to be enrolled as catechumens. From them the word has gone forth and tracts been distributed over this Eastern region from which come many inquirers. The present enrollment is 1 baptized member and 12 catechumens

#### To Rong Sum:

[This is] a new substation 65 li southwest of Pyeng Yang. This was organized last November when I visited the village and has since been visited by Leader Yi of the Pyeng Yang church. It has also been helped by the presence during the summer of one of the teachers in Mr. Miller's school whose home is here. They also have a building given them for church purposes by the man who there first became interested in the truth. This old man has recently died in perfect peace and faith leaving two sons as catechumens and a widow who now professes faith in Christ. There are as yet but 7 catechumens but it is a field calling for attention as it is in a very thickly

populated region in the river valleys in the direction in which we have scattered a number of catechumens.

In addition to the Pyeng Yang church and circuit of sub-stations, I have charge of

The Soon An Circuit:

consisting of the Soon An Sa Chon church and 4 sub-stations, to be reported as follows:

The Soon An Sa Chon Church:

[This church] has had a steady growth although it has just gone through its second trial and sifting process. It is still practically intact and stronger than ever. Early in the year one member was excommunicated for taking a concubine. Later on, one disappeared - a youth who is said to have been taken off by the Roman Catholics, and one is reported to have been forced to sacrifice to his ancestors. During the busiest farming season several of the members and catechumens yielded to the temptation to work part of the Sabbath and a very serious condition of things threatened the very life of the church. A visit in June with earnest pastoral exhortation brought many to repentance, strengthened their faith and led to a firmer decision. Last month another visit found a much better state of things all but 4 having strictly observed the Sabbath even during the busy harvest. These 4 were publicly reprimanded and privately exhorted and to all appearances have been brought to realize their sin. I have visited this church three times during the year, while helper Han has paid them monthly visits. Helper Kim who has recently been placed on the Soon An circuit is now to give one Sunday a month to this church, a small proportion of his salary being provided for by it. During the year 8 members including 2 women have been received by baptism, giving a present enrollment of 19 members and 31 catechumens. They have raised for expenses and repair of parsonage 37 in cash - equal to \$7.50. An attempt was made to establish a boys' school but owing to the absence of a good teacher the attempt proved unsatisfactory. A new effort is now being made which bids fair to result successfully.

Soon An City:

[This church] has 14 catechumens but during the disturbed state of things at the time of the hair-cutting [enforced cutting of the top-knots] they lost their place of meeting and have since been thoroughly unsettled. Being but 5 li from the Sa Chon church, some of the men attend there occasionally and an effort is being made to secure a re-gathering of this band composed of very young and inexperienced adherents.

Soon An Cha Chak:

[The church here] has grown stronger and is in good condition although it too has been affected by the Sabbath question. I visited it in December. Helpers Han and Kim visited it several times during the spring and summer and I again visited it in September. On this last visit I baptized 4 men and would have baptized some 6 or 8 more had they properly observed the Sabbath. There is evidence of a genuine work of grace in their hearts and I doubt not they will soon have the strength given them to do the Lord's will in this respect. With a present enrollment of 4 members and 25 catechumens they have this year built their own church without help, this costing them 6,750 cash (over \$3.<sup>00</sup>) in money besides their own labor worth an equal amount. They furnished their own expenses, contribute monthly a small sum towards Helper Kim's salary and have established a small boys' school with 8 pupils. Some of these catechumens are from villages in Suk Chun and An Ju magistracies many miles away from here and there will soon be other groups of inquirers calling for visits.

The other two sub-stations are at  
Yung You Paik No Ri and Yung You city:

The former is composed of 7 catechumens, most of whom were Roman Catholics and the latter composed of 3 catechumens. While great care needs to be exercised in receiving former Roman Catholics into the church, these men seem to be thoroughly sincere quiet farmers who, obtaining possession of the New Testament were enlightened, and believing that the "Jesus Kyo" is the true form of Christianity, so informed their priest and asked to be taken under our instruction. On my last visit I also entered the Cha San district where at An Kouk Ri there are several promising inquirers who seem to have decided for Christ. They have not yet arranged for Sunday meetings and so are not yet enrolled.

In closing my report of the work in and around Pyeng Yang I want to call the attention of the Mission and the Board and the Church to this fact - viz - that the native Christians have by word of mouth and by printed page and by the testimony of reformed lives carried the news of the gospel into hundreds and hundreds of towns and villages and could we but follow this up I believe we should see most remarkable movements in the ingathering of thousands of believers. The time is ripe and now is our opportunity. Could the Board send us new men to care for the farther off regions in the north and in Whang Hai province the present members of the station could give their undivided time to the 15 or 20 districts nearest Pyeng Yang and soon have this region dotted with churches in hundreds of villages. I desire to close with an expression of my deep gratitude to God that He has allowed me the privilege of 7 years of labor in Korea and I rejoice in what He has done for us in Pyeng Yang in giving us such complete harmony in our work and in making more and more to realize that "the gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes."

Evangelistic Report

It might almost be said of one's reports as they are read from year to year as was said of the Spanish reports of Cuban affairs and the Cuban War, "There is the usual monotony of success and victory", only in the case of our reports it is of undisputed success.

The past year has in no sense been behind its predecessors and as in God's work, all things go forward with progress in geometric and not arithmetical ratio, the main difficulty is to keep pace with the work as it advances.

My own share in the work during the past year may be said to have been evangelistic, literary and in part political. As no small amount of my time was spent in the latter, a word about it will not be out of place here.

As we all know, after the barbarous murder of Her Majesty, the late Queen, just before our last Annual Meeting, His Majesty surrounded by those who at least were willing to profit by the foul deed, had no one whom he could trust and to whom he could look. He knew not who were friends and who were foes but he seemed to realize that he could trust Americans and the missionaries.

Being deprived of his regular interpreter and only allowed the tools of the existing cabinet as interpreters for his intercourse with the foreign representatives here, I was requested with others, to be at the Palace at least once a day to convey any message to or from His Majesty. At the request of the American Representative I thus began my daily visits to the Palace which were soon increased to two and even sometimes three visits a day.

The feelings of the whole foreign community concerning the murder of Her Majesty and toward the then existing cabinet were well known. No one seemed at that time afraid to express themselves and those of us who were forced to appear as spokesmen of unpleasant truth, sometimes in the presence of the very men referred to, were not looked upon with any great amount of favor by the Cabinet.

After the unsuccessful attack on the Palace by His Majesty's friends in November, reports to which our presence with His Majesty in the Palace on the night of the attack had been made to give credence that we were implicated in the attack, were widely circulated. It is but proper at this time to state that, far from being in any way implicated, I knew absolutely nothing about the contemplated attack till late in the evening when word was brought me that such an attack was rumored, and as His Majesty's life might be in danger, the American Minister requested me to be in the Palace, that the presence of foreigners might prevent any attempt upon the King's life.

While at times I acted as interpreter and the conveyer of messages for His Majesty to his friends, at no time did I for a moment enter into any plotting for an attack upon the Palace or the overthrow of the so-called cabinet that then held power.

Since His Majesty's escape from the Palace and the reassertion of his authority, he has on several occasions most graciously invited me to come and see him often and I ask

your prayers that in all intercourse there, all that I may do may tend to the coming of Christ's Kingdom among the people.

Now in regard to the evangelistic work proper, we have a great deal to report. There has been a building up of churches in the true sense of the word and the erection of church buildings has not been forgotten.

The church building for Chong Dong has been completed and was dedicated amid prayers and much rejoicing just before last Christmas. All the work and all the funds were raised by the natives. The Chong Dong church has, however, already outgrown its building and the people with a good will have set to work to raise the funds for a large church across the street and plan to use the present building as a lecture room and Sunday School classroom.

Church building seems to be in the air just now. Chang Yun too, found its building altogether too small and with commendable zeal set to work, raised all the funds and more than doubled the size of their church.

Little Chandari is not to be believed. The rest of the funds are now in hand and on October the 10<sup>th</sup> I assisted in the selection of the site right on a main road where at once the ground work will be prepared and a neat four-kan building in the shape of an "L" will at once be put up.

But not only at home have the church members been active. The Chong Dong church has been sending out of its members several every Sunday to preach the Gospel. The church has paid their expenses. The seed sown has taken good hold and at Haing Ju only a few weeks ago it was my privilege to see a church building almost completed and this in a few weeks will be dedicated.

The Chang Yun church has been active in the same way and already in two villages where work has been opened up buildings are prospected. When it is remembered that all this is the voluntary activity of those who profess to love Christ, that out of their poverty our Korean brethren have done all this without one financial aid it is indeed cause for heartfelt thanksgiving and praise to God. As may easily be inferred from the above, the condition of the churches is also a matter for praise and thanksgiving.

The Chong Dong church has during the year that has passed shown a good degree of activity about the Lord's work. The strain on them to finish the church at their own expense left them in no way weakened by the effort but they seem rather to be strengthened. They appear to have felt the need of reaching out to others. Every Sunday they send some of their members out to preach the Gospel. They have also felt that they could not do this alone and it has been with feelings of inexpressible joy that on several occasions I have come home to find a large part of the church spending a day at a time in prayer and fasting, seeking strength at their Father's hand.

The Mo Hwa Kwan work has shown a steady growth and the number that are now calling upon the one true God is by no means small. When it is remembered that this was the district too hard to be reached, a district sunk too low and that for several years work went on with no results we again look up and see that our Father is true to his promises. The Mo Hwa Kwan Christians join in all the regular services with the Chong Dong Church



and are a part of the same. I trust that before another year is out they will have fitted up and built a chapel for themselves out there but even then it is expected that they will attend the regular church services at Chong Dong. Three Sabbath services as well as five week-day services are sustained in connection with the Chong Dong Church and four extra Gospel services are held every Sunday. In addition to this, special services were held at Easter, Christmas, Good Friday and on His Majesty's birthday.

It was the Chong Dong Christians that conceived the idea of special services of prayer on His Majesty's birthday, an idea which culminated in special services in all the churches, the fruits of a special tract for the occasion by the K.R.T.S. [Korea Religious Tract Society]. The distribution of about 8000 copies and the monster mass meeting for prayer, singing and patriotic speeches [took place] at Mo Hwa Kwan on that day.

The Chong Dong Christians have started a mission at Haing Ju, 40 li from Seoul where they now have a very nice work, a growing interest and a flourishing congregation. Men, women and children are all interested and on my first visit there it was a real pleasure to meet a band of young boys singing as they came to welcome me, the Korean version of *Rejoice, Be Glad, the Redeemer has Come*". And as I talked with the earnest congregation I felt that indeed the Redeemer had come to some souls in that place.

The Chong Dong church [members] have also started work at Koyang. A well-to-do resident there has thrown open his Sarang [room for receiving guests] and there are several who desire to be baptized.

The additions during the past year for Chong Dong, Mo Hwa Kwan, Haing Ju and Koyang are as follows: By applicants I mean those who have applied for baptism but either were not received as catechumens or have not yet been examined, more of the latter. Catechumens are those applicants that have been received as such and the real increase for the year will then be seen from the totals.

	Applicants	Catechumens	Baptized	Total
Chong Dong, Mo Hwa Kwan	29	32	21	82
Haing Ju	17	9	0	26
Ko Yang	7	1	0	8
	<hr/> 53	<hr/> 42	<hr/> 21	<hr/> 116

Loss by death: 3

Infants baptized: 5

In Chang Yun although it has not received as much supervision as we would have liked, the work has steadily progressed. The leaders in the work and the most active in preaching are Saw Kyeng-Jo, Kim Yun-O and Kim Syek-Ho. The light from Song Chin has been shed far and wide all over the province. Its work at Chang Yun is well known and all through the surrounding country are evidences of the faithful work that these followers of Christ are doing. In Syeng Hwa, Pong Chen, Hai Ju and various other places there are now companies of believers who meet to worship on the Sabbath day. The magistrate of this section told me that if all his people were only like the people of Song Chin he would

have no trouble. The magistrate kept a stock of Christian books in both Chinese and the vernacular for distribution among those who were brought before him as criminals and in most cases, as prisoners were released after suffering their punishment, the magistrate would present them with a Christian book accompanying it with the injunction to follow its teachings as they would not then have to be brought before him as criminals again.

A Christian school has been provided by the church members and with other funds added, the people have purchased rice fields, the revenue of which supports the school, the first fully endowed Christian school in Korea.

The figures for Chang Yun for the past year are thus:	Baptized	23
	Catechumens	32
	Total added:	<u>55</u>

Koksan was visited for the first time last spring and our hearts were cheered by the evidences of the working of God's Spirit. God has been at work among some of the people in their mountain valleys and there is abundant proof that not a few have found the Saviour. To hear these simple mountain farmers tell in their own language what God had done for them, how they had first learned of Christ, and then naming the day, tell of their conversion, and to see and hear the evidences of this work for the Master and their simple trust in Christ is enough at once to cure the skepticism of those so-called Christians who doubt the utility of foreign missions. Every now and then we are made to see most clearly that the same God we knew in the homeland works in the same way in the hearts of the people in heathen countries.

We were not able to meet many of the people there owing to the shortness of our stay. And our sudden and unexpected call back to Seoul did not permit of our baptizing but three - some were received whom it was ----- to admit but the opportunity did not occur. Those others classed as catechumens are those who should have been baptized.

The list if them is:	Baptized	Catechumens	Applicants	Total
	3	6	12	21

During the past year it has only been possible for me to take but 2 trips into the country - in all about 2000 li. On the first I was accompanied by Dr. O.R. Avison and we went to Chang Yun and Koksan and back. All along the road as opportunity offered we sold medicines and books and preached and taught. On our way we touched at not a few places, notably Ko Yang, Song Do, Haiju. Last year I was appointed to open a substation at Song Do. As yet this has not been done. A number of people have shown quite a little interest in Christianity but there was a professing Christian there who had taken a great deal of pains to proclaim himself advance agent of the missionaries, etc. and as we had decided doubts concerning the man we left Song Do without doing anything definite for fear we might be identified with him. Since then he was drummed out of town by the inhabitants and is now getting his desserts in the chain gang on the streets of Seoul. I have sent down there several times and we hope that the way may open for a permanent substation during this year. In this place a great many books and medicines were sold and not a few heard the truth as it is in Christ.

In Haiju too we found a promising field, sold a good many books and dispensed no little medicine. In an itinerating trip it is no small help to have a physician along, especially

one who helps in the preaching and is active in spreading the truth. Here in Haiju too a substation in connection with Chang Yun should be opened.

On the second trip I had expected to get as far as Chang Yun but "was let" and Pai Chun was the farthest point reached. On this trip Brother Moore accompanied and his work at Pai Chun is in a most flourishing condition. This may also be said of an opening at Na Chin Po, around 40 li farther on.

With regard to my evangelistic work I have been hampered and hindered to no small extent by the lack of any regular helper. I had hoped to have obtained one but he was not allowed to come to me and I am praying earnestly that the Lord may send one after his own heart who will be able to work with me in the work. Koreans not so employed have, however, rendered no small amount of assistance and special mention should be made of Brothers Kim Heng-Kyeng and Song Syek-Jin, who have shown a most commendable zeal in God's work and a willingness to go wherever sent without remuneration.

The practice of carrying on book shops and colportage by means of providing quinine [?] at cost is steadily growing and I have to report that the South Gate shop is now on a self-supporting basis.

Before closing this part of my report I cannot but stop to note the gifts of the church. It must not be forgotten that the Koreans are poor and that in our church we have no wealthy members and a large number of very poor ones indeed, and yet what do we find:

In Chang Yun they have out of their own poverty doubled the size of their church, paid all running expenses, paid for books and tracts and supported several workers who have been spreading the truth. Not a little of the work for the addition to their church was given in labor and was a labor of love. It represents considerably more than its money value but is about 160 Japanese yen or a little more than this. Now this church invites us to have our trainees class for helpers there and offers to bear a large share of the cost.

In Haing Ju the little handful there raised 20.00 500 nyang and with work and gifts of material have their church home.

In Chan Dari the people have been most active in the work of the parent church at Chong Dong, have given liberally on several special occasions, worked hard for the building inside the "New Gate" and now they have raised all the funds for a 4 Kan church.

In Chong Dong the members have finished and paid for entirely their new church. In addition to this, in Sunday collections they have raised 1591.90 nyang, or 64 Japanese yen, which they used for running expenses and carrying the Gospel to regions beyond. And now, finding their new church already too small, with commendable zeal they have determined to build a new one across the street. They have already subscribed 2097.70 nyang or 84.00 yen of which one half has been paid in. We can hardly hope that before a year is over the new church will be built but the beginning will be made and its people say, "With God all things are possible".

In regard to literary work, Philippians and the Epistles of St. John have been translated as well as in reviewing the work of other individual translations of Galatians, Ephesians, Romans and James. Special tracts on services for Christians, Easter, ----- and His Majesty's birthday were prepared and printed and met with much favor. The following have also been reprinted:

The Three Principles	2 <sup>nd</sup> edition
God's Command	3 <sup>rd</sup> edition
Questions to My Soul	3 <sup>rd</sup> edition

The Nevius catechism was condensed and at request printed in cheap form and [given] the name of 그 세코문답. The Nevius catechism is now going through its fifth edition.

In addition to the above, 찬양가, or *Hymns of Praise*, the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition having been exhausted, was carefully revised and with additions reprinted.

Excerpts of a report given by Dr. Avison to the Presbyterian Annual Meeting

I have not done much in the line of itinerating since I came to Korea but last winter in company with Rev. Dr. Underwood I made a tour through Whang Hai Do of which he has told you. We spent a little over a month in the interior, traveling in all 1500 li. During that trip I treated about 275 patients, most of whom paid for their medicine. The principal points touched were Song Do, Hai Ju, Sorai, Chang Yun, and Koksan. At Song Do there is a good opening for work but as yet there is no one to go there. As it is only 160 li from Seoul and along a good road, Dr. Underwood and I planned to put a small stock of books and medicines there and take an occasional trip down there. The journey can be made on a bicycle in one day. So we would inside of a week make the journey there and back and yet have several days there for work. I need not deal with the condition of the work at Chang Yun and Koksan as Dr. Underwood has spoken of it, but I may say I was much impressed with the advantage that would come from stationing two men at Hai Ju. This place is close by the sea, beautifully located in the midst of a fertile country and already has a small nucleus for the beginning of a church. A man stationed there would have access to a very large tract of country and could care for the church in all that part of Whang Hai Do, reaching up to Chang Yun. I would like during the coming year to make a trip again through Whang Hai Do if the work here permits - - also to visit Song Do occasionally and I want once to visit Pyeng Yang.

From last October until the middle of January when I went to the country, I visited the palace very often, being just called professionally by His Majesty after the death of the Queen. As you know, I was in company with Dr. Underwood and Mr. Hulbert, present on the night of November 28<sup>th</sup> when the unsuccessful attack was made on the palace. I first heard of the proposed attack about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. I had visited His Majesty in the morning and met Dr. Underwood that evening about 6 o'clock, just as he arrived from the palace. He had just heard of the proposed attack. He informed me that the King wished to see me that evening and so we decided to go together after tea. We arrived at the gates about 7:45 and found them closed, but after a little palaver with the guards were admitted. We went straight to General Dye's apartment, sent word of our arrival to His Majesty and about 9 o'clock or a little later, were summoned to his apartments where we were accompanied by the Minister of the Household. When we were about to withdraw, His Majesty asked us if we would remain all night which we said we would do and then retired to General Dye's rooms to await developments. I need not go into details of what followed, but we spent a memorable night and for our pains got our names mixed up with the story of its events. After that night I was the only Western foreigner admitted except Generals Dye and LeGendre and Col. Neinstead, all of whom remained there, but His Majesty tried to make up for his deprivation by sending for me sometimes twice a day and sometimes once a day and finally every other day during the next month and a half.

(from Presbyterian Historical Society microfilm reel #180, Vol. eleven, part of Dr. Avison's *Royal Hospital* report to the Annual Meeting of the Korea Northern Presbyterian Mission.

Report of the Training Class

This class deserves more than casual notice not only on account of its representative character and its work while in session but more especially on account of what followed its dispersion, the wide-spread influence it exerted in gathering groups of catechumens in every direction from which the men had come.

The class was composed of 25 men representing the four churches at Pyeng Yang, Soon An Sa Chon, Eui Ju and Kou Syeng, six sub-stations and six other towns and villages. These with our personal teachers and the two school teachers in Pyeng Yang gave us a regular enrollment of 30. Three weeks were spent in study. Morning prayers were conducted by our Helper, Han Syek Chin, the Gospel of John being covered in devotional reading. The morning was spent in exegetical study of Romans with lectures by myself, and the afternoon with Mr. Lee in a similar study of the Gospel by Matthew. Four evenings in the week a prayer and praise service was held, those being of very marked spiritual power

In these meetings many of the men related the story of their conversion, their past life and their joy and gratitude now experienced in Christ's service. Others told of the work of grace in their own neighborhoods and of the difficulties and persecutions encountered and of some marked cases of answers to prayer. During these meetings Mrs. Bishop visited Pyeng Yang and became greatly interested in our work, so much so as to feel called upon to write our Board urging the sending of re-enforcements.

The class closed with the Sunday service in the church and the administration of the sacraments, there being 10 men to receive baptism, one of them a member of the class. While the class was in session there were a great many visitors from the country who came inquiring about Christianity. They received from contact with the class a decided impetus towards a deeper search into the truth.

From the praise services there was also a great impetus received toward making special efforts for the conversion of parents and wives and neighborhood friends. For these much prayer was offered and many instances related of success attending such efforts. The class dispersed to scatter the news of the gospel far more widely and more effectively than ever before. Soon afterwards the three men from Soon An obtained a supply of tracts and each starting in a different direction, proclaimed the good news in all the villages of that and adjoining districts. The two men from Kang Chin did likewise toward the East in the magistracies of Kang Tong and Sam Tung, while the four men from Anak in Whang Hai province began such a stir in their neighborhoods that three new sub-stations have been added to our work there. The requests for visits began to pour in on us so fast that we were simply dazed. These requests grow more and more importunate and we do not know how to meet the demands.

The experience with this class has taught us that the most important work we have is the training of these men who are our helpers and teachers and the leaders in the various churches and sub-stations throughout the station.

While the class was in session we gave it almost all of our time and energy, deeming it the most profitable of all work.

Seoul, Korea

October, 1896

Samuel A. Moffett

The Pyengyang Hospital  
(Report read at the Annual Meeting of the Mission)

The Board is requested to officially sanction the erection of the Hospital and Dispensary at Pyeng Yang, Korea.

The funds for the same amounting to #1400<sup>00</sup> gold were provided by Mr. Howard S. Moffett [Samuel A. Moffett's brother] and Mrs. Maria Jane Moffett [S.A. Moffett's mother], of Madison, Indiana - without encroaching upon money which would otherwise have reached the Board Treasury.

Previous to and during the erection of the Hospital, letters were constantly written to the Board concerning the same and it was supposed that no formal request for approval was needed.

The request is now made so as to bring the Hospital into line with all formalities required and that the plans for the medical work of the Pyeng Yang station may have the approval and support of the Board.

The Hospital consists of:

(1) a Dispensary Building with waiting room 14' X 16', an Operating room 14' X 16', a Drug room 10' X 12' and a private office and dark room.

(2) Building for wards with general in-patient ward and three private wards. This will comfortably accommodate 15 in-patients.

(3) A building with quarters for medical assistants and steward and a reception room to be used also as a chapel.

Approved by action of Board

Seoul, Korea

October 31, 1896

Daniel L. Gifford  
Samuel H. Moffett

MEMORIAL OF THE KOREA MISSION TO THE FOREIGN BOARD  
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.

The Korea Mission, assembled last October in perhaps the most harmonious and spiritual Annual Meeting in its history, felt impelled to ask of the Board and the Church a large band of re-enforcements. None appreciate more than the Mission the financial stringency of the times. But when God is ordering a forward movement all along the line in Korea, we dare not keep silent, but must pass on the orders. A very crisis of opportunity faces the missionaries in Korea. If the Church is alive to the situation and sends the men and women, thousands of conversions may be expected among the people. How long this opportunity will last no one can tell. We have heard God's order to advance; the reserve corps is needed. We pass on the word to the Church: and upon the Church then lies the responsibility for the souls of Korea's millions.

To understand the situation some explanations are necessary. The policy of the Korea Mission is strongly evangelistic: its policy also is to do its evangelistic work from strategic points as centers for widespread work rather than in the strategic points alone. The Mission has very evidently felt that it was not called to provide for elaborate educational work, but rather it has been providentially led to the wide-spread evangelization of the country. The evident desire of the members has been to engage largely in itineration with the view to the planting of churches throughout the cities and country villages of the land. During the past three years, especially since the war, great success has attended this evangelistic work, notably so in the north and west in the provinces of Pyeng An and Whang Hai, in connection with the Seoul and Pyeng Yang stations.

After a decade of work the Mission reports over 500 members with nearly 1000 catechumens, or applicants for baptism, who are building or providing their own churches; and are self-supporting to the extent of their ability. And further, there is such a wide-spread spirit of inquiry in all directions and calls for instruction from so many places that the present force of missionaries is entirely inadequate to meet the demands.

Hence, the Mission memorializes the Board and the Church to re-enforce the present stations and allow it to plan for the opening of three or four new stations.

In this Memorial we would urge the following considerations:

Under the evangelistic policy of the Mission, more missionaries are needed in order to direct and instruct the native workers, who are not so well fitted to organize and govern the church in its initial stages, as to preach and teach the simple truths of the Gospel message. That now is the time for an advance movement

(1) because the spirit of inquiry having been aroused, the minds of the people are at present open to religious instruction. (2) because as soon as the nation undergoes the material development through the adoption of western methods which may confidently be expected during the next ten years, the minds of the people, as is the case in Japan, will be intent upon material gain and enjoyment to the exclusion of thoughts upon spiritual things. (3) because the next ten years will in all probability see the establishment of a secular and possibly anti-Christian, western school system. The preacher now gets a hearing which he cannot expect when an anti-Christian literature is widely read among the people. (4) because the native Christians have been working after the Apostolic manner and unless their work is



now followed up, we shall lose a great part of the harvest which is at present awaiting the reapers.

The Mission makes request for re-enforcements as follows: six lady missionaries, one of them a doctor; four ministers and four physicians.

#### A. Lady Missionaries.

1<sup>st</sup>. The most imperative demand is for two ladies for evangelistic work in Pyeng Yang and the north. In the churches connected with this station there is a phenomenal state of affairs, in that the vast majority of the church members are men. For all that important region there is at present only one lady worker, Mrs. Lee, and she, with a young child and other family cares, can give to the work but a limited attention. There is the large Pyeng Yang church, with an attendance of 500, whose families need visiting: and in the cities and country villages in the vicinity of Pyeng Yang, in some 30 districts, we have members and catechumens whose wives and daughters are in great need of instruction from lady missionaries.

2<sup>nd</sup>. A lady for evangelistic work in connection with the Chong Dong church inside the West Gate of Seoul. The women's work connected with the large and flourishing parent church of the city has been cared for by Mrs. Dr. Underwood, whose devotion and zeal have been greatly hindered by her delicate health and the necessity for dividing her available strength between medical and evangelistic work. For a lady worker to help her in the care of the women of the church, who live not only in the city, but in country villages within a radius of ten miles from the church, she has been pleading for the past two years.

3<sup>rd</sup>. A lady doctor for Yŭn Mät Kol, to work with Mrs. Gifford in her itinerating work in the country villages and to carry on dispensary work in connection with the plant for the Girls' school, and women's work in a place where she will have for her medical district practically the Eastern half of the city of Seoul. If she is sent, this will leave one lady physician free to give her entire time to the hospital and that portion of the city, instead of dividing her time between the two medical centers.

4<sup>th</sup>. A lady for evangelistic work at the Hospital to take the place made vacant by Miss Arbuckle's resignation and return to America. The Mission believes in making the medical department as directly contributive as possible to the evangelistic side of the work.

5<sup>th</sup>. Another lady for Seoul, who by the time she has acquired the language, will find a dozen openings for work either in connection with the rapidly growing needs of the Seoul Station, or the new station, whose opening has been planned at Song Do.

#### B. Clerical Missionaries.

1<sup>st</sup>. In Pyeng Yang one minister is needed with the view to taking charge of the work in the northern part of the Whang Hai province and settling in a new station in the region of Anak, where we now have six sub-stations, three church buildings and a large and thickly populated section filled with inquirers. The more than 60 members and 100 catechumens of this region have made a special appeal for a resident missionary. The need for additional workers in the Pyeng Yang station was so deeply felt by the Mission at the Annual Meeting that it appointed both Mr. Baird and Mr. Miller to give a portion of their time from their already pressing work in the Boys' School at Seoul to the even more imperative needs of the Pyeng Yang station.

2<sup>nd</sup>. A minister for Fusan, and

3<sup>rd</sup>. A minister for Tagoo. Fusan and Tagoo are both located in Kyeng Sang Do in southeast Korea, which is of large dimensions and the most thickly populated province in the country. Fusan is the southeastern seaport of Korea, offering large opportunities to the itinerating missionary. The Mission has had a station here for several years. Tagoo is the capital of the province, a city of considerable size, the center of a rich and populous section of country and a strategic point of much importance. That a station can be permanently established without difficulty in this place is shown by the fact that Mr. Baird, in opening the station, lived there for months, and his family made a prolonged visit to the city and experienced nothing but kindness from the people. Mr. Baird, having been transferred from Tagoo to Seoul, and Mr. Adams, having been appointed to complete the opening of Tagoo, Dr. Irvin is left without a clerical colleague in Fusan, which vacancy should be filled by one new minister. One new clerical man should also join Mr. Adams in the Tagoo station, where he is at present the only missionary among two millions of people.

4<sup>th</sup>. A minister for the opening of a new station at Song Do, to the north of Seoul, to work not only in that large city, but also in the section of country in the southern and eastern part of the Whang Hai province, where we already have the long-established and prosperous work of the Chang Yen Church, together with the sub-stations of Hai Ju, Pak Chon, Kum Chon and Kak San. (See the reports of Dr. Underwood and Mr. Moore.)

#### C. Medical Missionaries.

1<sup>st</sup>. One physician for Gensan. This station upon the East Coast of Korea is not yet fully manned, and needs the medical work to accompany the evangelistic efforts already so successfully under way.

2<sup>nd</sup>. One physician for Tagoo, and

3<sup>rd</sup>. One physician for Song Do. Every consideration which urges the appointment of clerical men for these two places pleads equally for the physicians to accompany them.

4<sup>th</sup>. One physician for the northern part of the Pyeng An province, where Mr. Whittemore, of the Pyeng Yang station, will presently take up work with the view to opening a station, probably at Pak Chun, in order to look after the needs of the Eui Ju region, which, although full of promise, has remained unvisited for the past three years, owing to the pressure of the work nearer Pyeng Yang.

Let the noble words of the distinguished traveller, Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop, who speaks from personal observation, form the closing appeal of this memorial. "Now a door is opened wide in Korea; how wide, only those can know who are on the spot. I dread indescribably that unless many men and women experienced in winning souls are sent speedily, the door which the Church declines to enter will close again and the last state of Korea will be worse than the first."

D.L. Gifford  
S.A. Moffett (Committee of Korea Mission)

Seoul, Korea

November, 1896

Samuel A. Moffett

Excerpts of a letter from Rev. S.A. Moffett which appeared in the Madison, Indiana Courier.

A recent letter from Rev. S.A. Moffett brings the interesting intelligence that he will sail on the steamer China in a few days for a visit to his home people, after an absence of seven years as a Presbyterian missionary in Korea.

Mr. Moffett has been commissioned by His Royal Highness, the King of Korea, to accompany his son the Prince to America, where he is to receive a liberal education in one of our Eastern colleges.

Mr. Moffett, in writing to his home folks, says: "On last Sabbath, while in church, I was called out by a messenger from His Majesty, and responding, I was given audience - the King speaking to me about accompanying his son, the second Prince, to America, where they wish to place him in school. The plans have been made and my departure at this time is taken advantage of to provide him with a traveling companion who speaks Korean, and who can be trusted to handle the funds and see that he gets to his destination safely.

"This will necessitate my going directly from San Francisco to New York, and thence home, so that I shall be delayed perhaps a week longer than I otherwise should.

"The Prince is now in Japan, pretty carefully guarded. I shall go with him to New York to see him in the hands of those who are to have charge of his education there, and after seeing the officers of the Mission Board, will go directly home."

Later Mr. Moffett writes: "The arrangements for the Prince to go to America are completed and papers signed. In talking to Mr. Loomis yesterday we were thinking it might be well for the Prince to go home with me - spend Christmas there and then go on to New York - in which case I could take my time about getting him settled and also get all matters of business with the Board attended to at leisure.

"The Prince will travel, not as a Prince, but as an ordinary first class passenger - and will dress in foreign (American) clothes.

"Am to meet him in Japan and there make all arrangements."

The coming of Mr. Moffett and his distinguished guest will be awaited with much interest by our citizens, and we may justly be proud that one of our fellow townsmen has been honored with this important commission.

(from the Samuel Hugh Moffett collection of S.A. Moffett papers)

Somewhere in Korea

November, 1896

Isabella Bird Bishop

To the Editor of  
"The Korean Repository"

Dear Sir:-

On returning from Western China in July, I was surprised to see in the *Repository* for May an apparent quotation from a letter of mine which I could not by any means recognize, as it had not once occurred to me that Korea at any known period of her history had possessed what I should designate as "good government."

On obtaining recently the original letter, that from which the quotation was taken, the context was omitted, which is hardly fair to the writer. Four sentences before the indictment of Japan as a peace disturber, these words occur, "Japan professed, and I believe in good faith, that her desire was to give to Korea the blessings of *peace and good government*."

It is a trifling matter, but I know your desire for accuracy and fairness, and besides, I do not care to be pilloried as so absolutely an ignoramus as the sentence quoted without the context would represent me.

Yours sincerely,

Isabella Bird Bishop

Pyongyang, Korea

November, 1896

Samuel A. Moffett

To the Editor of  
"The Korean Repository."

Dear Sir:-

The editorial on *Polygamists in the Church* in the *September Repository* is calculated to give a very erroneous impression as to the position of the Presbyterian Church on the subject of Polygamy. Will you kindly give space to the following statements?

(1) The Presbyterian Church does and always has taken the position that Polygamists cannot be admitted to the church.

(2) The General Assembly had before it this year a request from the Synod of India asking that decision in these cases be left to the synod, but the General Assembly simply re-affirmed the position of the Church.

(3) The Presbyterian Council in Korea cannot change the fundamental law of the Church and has never been ignorant of the fact.

The Council also knows full well that the question before it is not, "Can a man continuing in the polygamous relationship be admitted to the Church?" but is, "What shall be done in the case of a man who has been a polygamist or who has concubines when he applies for admission to the Church?"

Samuel A. Moffett

Chemulpo, Korea

November 3, 1896

J. Hunter Wells

Dr. F.F. Ellinwood:

Dear Doctor:

The narrative report of our meeting just over in Seoul will give you the general information you desire. You will, doubtless, hear from the others also of the great Spiritual good we all obtained and of its exceptionally harmonious and agreeable features. It does not become any of us of Pyengyang to refer to our reports or work, but that the Mission rejoiced with us you can see by the action requesting Mr. Baird and Mr. Miller to come up and help us from time to time during the coming year. This is particularly pleasing to us because we came down to the meeting with no requests of that sort, though we all felt [a need] as you can see by a letter I wrote to you last Spring of our great need. It is not all because of Mr. Moffett's departure, but because of all the great and growing work then due, as you know, to his and others efforts, but especially to the blessings of the Holy Ghost. He [Moffett] comes to you as a special representative, with Mr. Gifford, to tell you of the Mission needs, etc.

I wish I could tell you in adequate words the genuine way in which my wife takes hold of the work here before her. She loves the people and looks forward to our life and work in Pyeng Yang with sweet expectation and enthusiasm.

We won't burden you now with any details of our needs or wishes but since the Mission placed the first need of Korea to be two ladies for Pyeng Yang, I can refer to that. The transfer of Mr. Baird to Seoul and in charge of the school in conjunction with Mr. Miller, who will, it now seems probable, be transferred to Pyeng Yang next year, the election of Dr. Vinton to the office of treasurer as well as secretary, the revision and enlargement of the school with the valuable and much needed gift of Dr. [Philip] Jaisohn [서재필], you knew of through other and more appreciated correspondents.

I would like to refer again to the Pyeng Yang reports. At the end of the reading of them the audience with one accord sang *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*, and the Mission involuntarily resolved itself into a prayer meeting of praise and thanksgiving. Mrs. Bishop was present and made some remarks which she closed with these strong words: "It [that at Pyeng Yang] is the most wonderful work I have ever seen in connection with the Gospel". Such a sentence coming from such an observer and one whose sympathies are naturally with her own church in England, and one who has seen more of mission work in Asia than any other person, are surely strong words. But I have written too much already and ask your pardon for the intrusion on your time.

We in Pyeng Yang Station are all (except Mr. Moffett whom we'll sadly miss this coming year though we know his prayers are with us and the Lord's blessing is on our work) - we of Pyeng Yang are all here [in Chemulpo] and leave tomorrow for our homes. We are all anxious to get back and enter our work with more than usual zeal and prayerfulness.

With the sincerest compliments to Dr. Brown and wife and the bespeaking of the prayers of you all on the work in Pyeng Yang.

I am yours sincerely,  
J. Hunter Wells

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea Correspondence, microfilm reel #178, Vol. 6, letter #53)

Yokohama, Japan

Nov. 14, 1896

Samuel A. Moffett

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

Your letter of Sept. 9th conveying the action of the Board granting me a furlough and your very kind comments on the same reached me just as I arrived in Seoul for the Annual Meeting.

Our Annual Meeting this year was a very rich treat - the presence and guidance of the Spirit of God being very markedly the distinguishing feature. We had every reason to rejoice and be glad for the Lord has certainly given us a rich harvest this year.

The presence of Mrs. Bishop and of Mr. Loomis added very much to our pleasure and profit and I am sure that the splendid letter which Mrs. Bishop has written and which will soon reach you will make your heart glad.

We have come to be grateful that the work in Korea has touched her so deeply and that the Spirit has moved her to so interest herself in behalf of the work in Korea. I think the reports speak for themselves but backed as they are by her very strong plea I am sure you will not be surprised that we are asking for such strong re-enforcements.

I shall soon have the pleasure and privilege of laying before you all the Reports of this year which Dr. Vinton, our Secretary, has entrusted to me for delivery to you and then I shall also be able to speak to you more fully concerning our work and our requests.

I reached Seoul and found that the state of Mr. Gifford's health was such as to lead the physician to order him home at once so that we made arrangements to leave together. We arrived here yesterday and will leave on the "China" which is scheduled to leave Nov. 22nd. We stay over here - one steamer - in order to complete arrangements for taking the Prince of Korea with us to America for his education and also that we may open negotiations with Prince Pak Young Hyo for the purchase of his property in Seoul with a view to using it for our Boys' School under the plan which will be laid before you in full when the action of the Mission reaches you and we are able to see you in New York.

As you know, Mr. Loomis has charge of the affairs connected with the plans for the Education of the Prince in America. If the plan is carried out the Prince will go with us in my charge. As yet, it is not definitely decided whether we shall go direct to New York or whether the Prince will spend Christmas with me in my home. Mr. Loomis has suggested the latter course but I shall write you again so that you will know when to expect us in New York. I sincerely hope the school at

11/14/96 – S.A.M.

which it is decided to place the Prince may be one under Presbyterian control and one with a marked Spiritual influence and atmosphere. There is such a tendency in Japan towards a nominal Christianity which has no power to regenerate that I feel like taking the position for Korea - that we want no missionaries and no Christians but those who fully believe that the gospel is the power of God and that the gospel alone can do for Korea all that is needed. I pray that the Prince may be led to become a real Christian or none at all, for nominal Christianity is not Christianity and only blocks the way

With reference to the request of the Mission, I wish to write now that the Mission has placed in the Order of Preference for New Missionaries at the top of the List for Women two Lady Missionaries for Pyeng Yang and at the top of the List for Men one Clerical Missionary for Pyeng Yang and this need is so imperative and urgent that I do hope these can be appointed and sent within three months so that they shall reach the field in the Spring.

Will put the case before you in full in a short time but if you have the right sort of people at hand just now please reserve them for this field unless there is a more urgent call elsewhere which I scarcely believe can be the case.

Mr. & Mrs. Gale are still here in Yokohama but hope to have the Dictionary through by Jan 1st - when they will leave for America.

Expressing once more my appreciation of your many kind letters and looking forward most eagerly to soon meeting you in person.

Very sincerely yours in Christ,

Samuel A. Moffett

P.S. I arrived here at Miss Britten's Hotel last evening and find that Rev. Alfred E. Street of our Hainan China Mission is very seriously ill here with low fever. He is all alone on the Mission field, as I have been these past seven years, and my heart goes out to him in sympathy. Doubtless you have already heard of his illness but I feel like asking that in your noon day prayer meeting he may be prayed for.

S.A.M.

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea Correspondence, microfilm reel #179, Vol. 8, letter #78)



Colorado Springs, Colo.  
The Alamo Hotel

Dec. 15, 1896

Samuel A. Moffett

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

Mr. Gifford and I arrived on the "China" reaching San Francisco Dec. 10th. Doubtless you heard from Mr. Loomis of Yokohama explaining the failure of Prince Eui Wha to accompany us.

Mr. Gifford and I stopped over Sunday at Salt Lake City and have been compelled to stop here today, having missed connection this morning.

We will go direct to our homes - Mr. Gifford to Mendota, Illinois and I to Madison, Indiana and will expect to go on to New York by the 10th of January, the limit of our tickets.

We shall have a special memorial from the Korea Mission to lay before you as the Mission believes that the condition in Korea is such as to lay upon us the necessity of asking for large re-enforcements. I am totally ignorant of the Board's Rules governing us during the so called period of furlough and shall be glad to hear from you at my home if need be or hear from you when I come to New York in January. I realize the need of some rest and shall hope to get it this Spring.

Trusting that I shall soon have the privilege of presenting to you in person the needs of Korea and with the kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Samuel A. Moffett

Unidentified newspaper clipping beginning: "Along the waterfront", December 10, 1896:

The steamer *China*, from Hong Kong, calling at Shanghai, Yokohama and Honolulu, arrived in port this morning a day ahead of time. She broke the record by two hours in the run between Yokohama and Honolulu.

Among her passengers was S.A. Moffett, who for many years was a missionary at Pyeng Yang, Corea. He was to have been the travelling companion of Prince Eui Wha, the second son of the King of Corea, who was preparing to come to America to be educated, but at the last moment the court officials changed their minds. It was the opinion of the missionary that the Japanese dictators to the Corean Empire persuaded the King to have his son educated in a Japanese college. Mr. Moffett, however, thinks that the Corean Prince will eventually come to America and that his education will be superintended by the American Board of Foreign Missions.

Prince Eui Wha is regarded in Corea as the successor to his father. He is far more intelligent than his elder brother and more highly regarded by the King and his subjects. He is seventeen years of age.

(Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PCUSA Board of Foreign Missions, Korea Correspondence, microfilm reel #179, Vol 8, letter #79)

## Extract of letter to S.A. Moffett

Whittemore and I simply had a fine trip and the way that work is opening up is simply wonderful. I baptized on this trip and received 132 new Catechumens. We visited two new places where the truth seems surely to have taken a deep hold. One is in Moon Wha and the other in Anak. At the one I received 30 new Catechumens and at the other 46. At both places we had fine meetings and the people seemed intensely interested. Both have decided to build churches in the spring and what is best about it, they have not said a word about us giving them any help.

At Pori Too Kai we had the meeting in Choi's house which was packed full as was the court in front. I baptized 4 there and received a number of Catechumens. They had decided to build in the spring but after we left they concluded they could not wait until spring so they bought a house next to Choi's and now they are happy. Kim Paik Yungi and Han have been doing most admirable work and the beauty of it is that they are doing it for the love of it. Kim gets nothing but he gives nearly his whole time to going about with Han preaching in new places and teaching those who have become interested. May the Lord give me grace to lead these people aright. If we are careful now they will soon develop into full self support.

Before going to Whang Hai province I made the trip to Kang Chin where I baptized 8 and received about 15 as Catechumens.

Pyeng Yang, Korea

Dec. 28, 1896

Graham Lee

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

The good work here still goes on with no apparent abatement of interest but rather always in increase. Mr. Whittemore and I have taken two trips since the Annual Meeting, both of which were most successful. The first was to a small place 100 li from here where we have a small church. We spent our day there and baptized eight and received about fifteen on the catechumen list. It was a delightful days [sic] to us all. The next trip was down into northern Whang Hai Do where we have such an interesting work. We visited the six substations already organized and also organized two new ones. Nineteen were baptized and 135 received on the catechumen list.

Today we begin examining candidates for baptism in the Pyeng Yang church. There must be 30 or 40 to be examined at this time. We are to have communion service on Jan. 10th and on that day all who have been received will be baptized. All who come from the outstations to attend the Training class will be present on that day as the class begins on Jan. 11th. We are looking forward to a day of great blessing. The work in this province and northern Whang Hai is simply wonderful. During the year there will be some hundreds to be examined and baptized. Dr. Ellinwood, how am I to look after this work properly? In Seoul they have agreed to send us as much help as they can and Miller expects to be up to help me with the class - but with all the help they can give there is five times as much work as I can look after.

The people down in Whang Hai Do are simply demanding that a missionary be sent to live among them - and rightly demanding. Here now are some two or three hundred people who need instruction and continual guidance - instruction and guidance that we cannot give from Pyeng Yang. Here is a call that I cannot see how our church can dare to disregard. God has opened here a door of very great opportunity and it behooves our church to have a care lest she fail to enter in. There is absolutely no hindrance to the preaching of the Gospel and the people are simply hungry for it. One can scarce conceive of a field more open and ready.

I want to tell you how much pleased I am with Mr. Whittemore. He is an earnest faithful man and one who will make a good missionary when he gets the language which he will get all right if he keeps on as he has started in for he has buckled down in good shape and pounds away all day long, and any man who goes at it in that way is bound to get there.

We are all well and have just had a very happy Christmas.

Mrs. Lee sends her kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

Graham Lee

P.S. Our mail that came yesterday brought a mission letter from you and also one to Mr. Whittemore. In regard to making temporary arrangements for two young ladies, set your mind at rest for we planned that long ago and can take care of them easily. In the spring is a splendid time for them to come out, none better if they can get here before July 1st and they can easily do that. We are glad the Board realizes our need and we trust nothing will hinder those two young ladies being sent in the spring.

G.L.

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